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21 NATIONS ATTEND PLANNING MINISTERS CONFERENCE

PY091650 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1103 GMT 9 May 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 May (NA) -- The Argentine planning secretary, General Jose Miret, charged today that the "coercive and discriminatory measures" that developed countries adopt for "political reasons" against developing countries, are a factor that "greatly contributes to the unstable and arbitrary situation in international relations."

Upon opening the fourth Latin American and Caribbean planning ministers conference this morning, General Miret called for new "ways and means of cooperation" between Latin American countries with the objective of achieving a sustained and equitable international development.

The conference, which will last 2 days, is being attended by delegates from 40 international, government, and non-government organizations from 21 countries, and it is sponsored by the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), and the Latin American Social Economic Planning Institute (ILPES).

Among the Latin American officials attending the meeting is Leon Roldos Aguilera, the vice president of Ecuador and leader of the National Planning Council.

In his opening speech, Miret reviewed the efforts that several countries have made to achieve "a new international economic order" with the objective of "avoiding a crisis with unforeseen consequences."

He noted that "what we need is a multilateral system that will transcend the framework that was planned for a past epoch; a system based on the systematic coordination of policies with the participation of all the countries in the region."

In this regard he urged all countries "to take part in a great collective effort." He also called for "new ways and means of cooperation with the objective of achieving a sustained and equitable international development."

General Miret said: "We are approaching a decisive stage. It is up to us to make realistic and serious proposals that will allow us to overcome the present stagnation."

He suggested careful study of any programs or plans of possible expansive strategies, adding that hasty, and superficial conclusions that are suitable only for certain specific situations should be avoided.

Miret noted that as time goes by nations will pay higher consequences for the lack of foresight. Moreover, it is just as dangerous to improvise as it is to draft plans that cannot be implemented, since improvization generates uncertainty and unattainable goals frustrate expectations.

Attending this fourth conference of planning ministers are representatives from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Suriname, Paraguay, Peru, the Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Venezuela, and Spain.

There are also representatives from the IDB, the Inter-American Planning Society, from the Cartagena Agreement Board, the Ibero-American Cooperation Institute, the Latin American Energy Organization, the Latin American Free Trade Association [as received] and the UN Development Program, among other regional and international organizations.

STRIKING POLICEMEN RETURN TO WORK IN SAN JUAN

PY091915 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 9 May 83 p 5

[Excerpts] San Juan -- Nearly 2000 policemen here went back to work yesterday following a three-day strike to protest working conditions and low salaries. The policemen reportedly ended their strike when they received assurances from local government officials that all their demands, except those concerning salary increases, would be granted.

The policemen were joined in their strike on Saturday by higher ranking officers, following San Juan Police Chief Ernesto Fusch's vow not to negotiate with the rebelling police.

Their demands included the pardon of a policeman who was being prosecuted for possessing a petition containing the group's demands, more time off, and assurances that they will not be punished for their strike.

The local government has not announced any intentions to give in to the policemen's demands but spokesmen for the former strikers said that, with the exception of the salary question, their other demands have met with favourable response from government officials.

BIGNONE MEETS ECUADOREAN VICE PRESIDENT ROLDOS

PY091745 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 May 83

[Relay from Government House]

[Excerpt] President Bignone held this morning a meeting at Government House with Ecuadorean Vice President Leon Roldos Aguilera. Also attending the meeting were Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Aguire Lanari, Ecuadorean Ambassador (Rogelio Valdivieso Eyiguren), [as received] Argentine planning Secretary Jose Miret, and Ambassador Enrique Quintana, chief of the protocol office.

FORMER DIRECTOR OF BOLIVIAN TV SEEKS ASYLUM

PY092348 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 9 May 83 p 5

[Text] The former director general of the Bolivian Television Company, Italo Mariaca Villegas, has fled his country and asked for political asylum from the Argentine Government in the city of Salta, according to press reports. The report said that Villegas arrived in Salta on Thursday.

CASTRO MADERO REFUTES CHARGE OF ATOMIC BOMB TEST

PY091453 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1215 GMT 9 May 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 9 May (NA) -- Vice Admiral Carlos Castro Madero, chairman of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA], has categorically denied that Argentina is planning to test a nuclear bomb before October, and added that this type of rumor coming from London seeks "to break the Latin American internal front."

The CNEA chairman stated: "Argentina has no nuclear program for military purposes underway. On the contrary, all activities in the nuclear field are oriented toward the welfare and health of the Argentines."

In a chat with NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, Castro Madero stated that the report that Argentina wants to demonstrate that it is still strong in a hypothetical confrontation with Great Britain is absolutely groundless, because one of the bases of the Argentine nuclear policy is to turn the benefits of the nuclear program toward the development of the region."

"If Argentina develops a military nuclear technology it would create a climate of distrust which would lead to the disintegration of Latin America," Castro Madero stated.

He added: "The other problem is that the neighboring countries would not like to remain in a position of inferiority and it would necessarily trigger an arms race which would increase underdevelopment in the continent."

"Moreover -- Castro Madero stated -- a clear fact which supports this policy is that by taking advantage of the dedication of the Embalse nuclear plant in Rio Tercero, a dialogue was developed through which the doors were opened for all Latin American nations."

The CNEA chairman admitted the possibility that the British foreign policy may seek "to break the Latin American internal front with this type of report."

He added: "In fact, similar rumors were heard last week, and now the newspaper THE TIMES has published them."

"An objective may exist to promote disagreement among the Latin American countries that acted so well as a group during the war over the Malvinas Islands," he stated.

Castro Madero recalled the position of the Canadian Government, which has reconfirmed its desire to continue cooperating with the Argentine nuclear plan.

Castro Madero cited as an example the Canadian position as proof that the Argentine nuclear program seeks peaceful ends.

UNEMPLOYED MARCH IN SAO PAULO; POLICE INTERVENE

Demonstration Disbanded

PY091750 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1600 GMT 9 May 83

[Excerpts] After 1 month and 5 days, the Sao Paulo Santo Amaro neighborhood is again in the news. Someone who wants [words indistinct] has organized a demonstration by unemployed workers. These are the reports filed by reporters (Maria Cida), (Milton Flora) and (Renato Lombardo). Here is reporter (Renato Lombardo:)

[Begin relay] Military Police Commander Colonel (Milton Viana) and Public Security Director (Manuel Pedro Pimentel) decided to disband the march that was being staged by unemployed workers who were heading toward the legislative assembly building. The police authorized neither the march nor the rally. After persistent phone calls from panicking businessmen of the (13 de Mayo) Square and neighboring streets and avenues to the [words indistinct], the military police commander received instructions to send the riot police squad to disband, at any cost, the march by the unemployed. The instructions were carried out.

According to military police officers, the order was to avoid, at any cost, marches and demonstrations that were not approved by the civil police.

Riot police squads, mobile tactical units and [words indistinct] patrol personnel reinforced the police forces stationed in the Santo Amaro area. [end relay]

[Begin (Maria Cida) relay] The military police, on the order to disband the demonstrators, headed toward the headquarters of the [words indistinct] union located in Santo Amaro. The Union had decided to stage a march toward the Legislative Assembly building. During the march, which was staged along Santo Amaro Avenue, there were some provocations between military police personnel and demonstrators but, generally speaking, it was a peaceful march. Shortly afterward, the riot squad of the military police launched a determined attack on the demonstrators. A woman, [name indistinct], was arrested. She is being kept at the 27th police station. [end relay]

Situation Continues Tense

PY091810 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1600 GMT 9 May 83

[Summary] [Live relay by (Maria Cida) and (Milton Flora) from Santo Amaro -- live] Businessmen have closed their stores in the wake of the march staged by the unemployed in Santo Amaro, Sao Paulo. "A new crowd is gathering at the (13 de Mayo) Square" and the riot squad of the military police is "on the alert."

"Concerning the looting that began on Santo Amaro Avenue," a police officer reported that he received orders to disband the marchers. It was reported that the order to disband the demonstrators "was given by the Bandeirantes Palace to the public security secretary." The situation in Santo Amaro is now "very tense."

Injuries Reported; Situation Calms

PY091845 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1815 GMT 9 May 83

[Relay by (Maria Cida) from Santo Amaro]

[Excerpt] Many people were injured during the clash between unemployed workers and the military police. The director of the first-aid station of Santo Amaro has said that many injured people have not reported to the station because they were afraid of reporting that they were injured by the police. Most stores in the Santo Amaro area are closed but some have already begun opening their doors. The situation seems to be returning to normal.

TROOPS GUARD LIBYAN PLANES TO PREVENT TAKEOFF

PY091820 Paris AFP in Spanish 1639 GMT 9 May 83

[Excerpt] Manaus, Brazil, 9 May (AFP) -- Manaus military sources reported today that the Brazilian troops that are guarding the Libyan planes that are being detained at the airport in Manaus, Amazonas State, were put on a state of alert during the weekend to stop any possible takeoff attempts.

The 1st Infantry Battalion jungle commando group is in charge of guarding the three Libyan planes that were detained for transporting arms to Nicaragua.

Paper Reviews Impasse

PY091300 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 8 May 83 p 11

[Text] With the threat of breaking diplomatic relations with Brazil, the Libyan Government is demanding the return of its weapons aboard the same planes that transported them, a high-ranking government source reported yesterday. According to the source, Brazil will continue trying to resolve the impasse through diplomatic channels.

"This is a serious problem involving national sovereignty. Brazil has always complied with the international air traffic rules and will insist on this point," the source stated.

Regarding the possibility of expeling the Libyan crew members from the country, the government source said that this possibility has not been considered, and added that diplomatic negotiations continue. He also explained that the Law on Foreigners does not apply in the case of the Libyans because they did not request visas to work or remain in Brazil.

Civil Household Chief Leitao de Abreu stated yesterday in Rio de Janeiro that negotiations between Itamaraty and the Libyan Government on the return of the four Libyan planes' cargo "are being carried out on the initiative of the government" and that "Itamaraty has not adopted any measure unilaterally." "The Brazilian Government is acting in perfect harmony, within the framework of total agreement," the household chief stated.

COMMENTATOR REPORTS ON NEW AMBASSADOR TO U.S.

PY072010 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 7 May 83

[Newton Carlos commentary]

[Text] According to a report that has just been released in Washington, Brazil's new ambassador to the United States will be Sergio Correa da Costa, the current Brazilian ambassador to the United Nations.

At the United Nations, Sergio Correa da Costa endorsed positions that the United States did not like, such as the so-called anti-Zionist vote. Sergio Correa da Costa was also among the first administrators of Brazil's nuclear policy, a policy the United States dislikes.

The U.S. Government is expected to express its agreement to the designation today. Sergio Correa da Costa will be charged with a very difficult task. Francisco Azeredo da Silveira, the current Brazilian ambassdor to the United States, will be assigned to the Brazilian Embassy in Portugal.

Later Report on Decision

PY091438 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 9 May 83

[Relay from Brasilia by (Carlos Rodrigues)]

[Excerpt] President Joao Figueiredo could decide today who the new ambassador to the United States will be. The new ambassador, whose name must be submitted to the Federal Senate for approval, will replace Ambassador Azeredo da Silveira -- former Brazilian foreign minister -- who has been appointed Brazilian ambassador to Portugal. In its upcoming meetings, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee will consider the name suggested by the president, given the importance of the position to be filled.

Two sectors are seeking to impose their viewpoint on the designation of the ambassador: While Itamaraty wants a career diplomat in Washington; the economic sector, (reportedly led by) Planning Minister Delfim Netto, would prefer the designation of a person with experience in that area, taking into account the significance of the United States as an economic partner to Brazil. [end relay]

AMBASSADOR IN U.S. REASSIGNED TO PORTUGUAL

PY070326 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 May 83 p 5

[Excerpt] Itamaraty yesterday announced that the Portuguese Government has agreed to the appointment of current Brazilian Ambassador in Washington, Antonio Azeredo da Silveira, as the new Brazilian ambassador in Lisbon. Diplomatic sources have indicated that the transfer is made for humanitarian, not professional, reasons. It appears that the grandson of the diplomat, Antonio Francisco, whom Azeredo da Silveira raised like his own son after the parents died, was involved in a problem in Washington last year and can no longer live in the United States.

DE LA ESPRIELLA MEETS WITH COSTA RICAN ARAUZ

PA100133 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 May 83

[Text] The Costa Rican Government's neutrality policy was discussed today by the president of the republic and Costa Rican Vice President Armando Arauz.

President Ricardo de la Espriella granted an audience to Costa Rican Vice President Armando Arauz. The meeting, held at the Presidential Palace, took place after Arauz's tour of Venezuela and Colombia.

Vice President Jorge Illueca and Foreign Affairs Minister Juan Jose Amado attended the meeting. The senior Costa Rican official's mission was to expound on that Central American nation's neutrality policy, as announced by President Luis Alberto Monge.

Just as he did in Venezuela and Colombia, Vice President Arauz briefed President De la Espriella on the reason for the announcement of this neutrality policy.

The Costa Rican vice president's tour ended 48 hours before the meeting that the Contadora group has scheduled in Panama to adopt new, alternative steps for dealing with the dangerous situation in Central America.

It is known that Costa Rica wants the Contadora group to act as a guarantor of its neutrality.

Arauz, who returned to Costa Rica this afternoon, described the results of his mission as highly positive.

AMADO ON C.A., ALLEGED FOREIGN MEDDLING

PA061557 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] The foreign ministers of Central America and the Contadora Group will meet at mid-month in Panama. Here is Panamanian Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado III making the announcement:

[Begin recording] Except for the incidents which one way or another have heightened tension among the countries, there has been no additional action to the last working session of the foreign ministers of Central America and the Contadora Group. However, due to the latest actions which hinder the quest for peace, it is perhaps advisable to have some consultations and seek specific dates and more definitive agreements for a new round of talks with the foreign ministers of Central America and the Contadora Group. I daresay that this meeting must definitely be held in May. Initially, there was the idea that the meeting should be held before accepting the invitation to go to Cartagena on the occasion of that city's 450th anniversary. We may have to advance the date in view of the new realities we are experiencing in the Central American isthmus. The event in Cartagena will be 30 May through 1 June. The Central American topic per se is a very complex topic in view of its characteristics. The positions are very firm and each one defends and protects national interests on a priority basis. And the scope of action is quite limited. We must not be deceived nor must we think in illusive concepts and terms. We must have our feet firmly on the ground and view the reality of the Central American isthmus. If we can get the parties to establish the proper conditions to sit down and negotiate to find solutions to the diverse problems they are facing, this will be a great accomplishment in my opinion.

Thus far we have not achieved this, as you may have surmised from the international media reports on the radical positions, the insistent calls to dialogue that have been made, and the futility of these calls. That is why we are not going to harbor illusions to think that our actions will result in specific positions or with concrete solutions. Our immediate objective is to get the parties to sit down and negotiate and search for solutions to their problems.

Minister Amado also referred to certain groups' concern about possible Cuban and Nicaraguan interference in our domestic affairs:

[Begin recording] Yes, we have received some citizens' expressions of concern about this. We consider these concerns quite valid and, first of all, we have begun talks with the chiefs of diplomatic missions of Cuba and Nicaragua. They have told us that their governments and officials accredited here in Panama have not meddled and will not meddle in the domestic affairs of Panama. The Foreign Ministry and all state institutions are very zealous in ensuring that national dignity is respected. And, as such, we have asked the official branches, which are dutybound to make the appropriate investigations, to help us get facts to formulate an opinion on the case. [end recording]

AMADO ON CHARGES AGAINST DIPLOMATS, PRIEST

PA070023 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 May 83 p 1A

[By Maria Victoria Gonzalez]

[Text] According to Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado III, the departments of Migration and Military Intelligence will investigate the charges made against Father Allan Mclellan and several diplomats who have been accused of disseminating literature from Nicaragua and Cuba, as well as from the Nicaraguan "People's Church" in this country.

The Panamanian foreign minister explained that "through the Immigration Department and other institutions, the Government and Justice Ministry can investigate the case in the Chiriqui highlands, in which the priest is involved. Several charges have been brought against him on account of his activities. Regarding the case of in-transit diplomats involved in activities other than those of normal protocol, Military Intelligence would be best suited to cooperate with the Foreign Ministry and to provide us with some elements for judgment."

He further said that the embassies' premises are not subject to investigation because they are part of the territory of the country that occupies them, and "we must respect those considerations set forth in the international diplomatic agreements."

Asked what actions would be taken if the charges proved to be true, he said: "That is so delicate a matter that I refuse to speculate, since that would be toying with these countries' prestige. This must not be done in international matters."

Amado finally said that "we must cautiously wait for information from the institutions involved in the case; and based on those reports we should make a fuller analysis of the case and decide on the steps to take."

COSTA RICA

HAVANA ON MONGE REQUEST FOR PEACEKEEPING FORCE

PA092241 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 8 May 83

[Text] Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge has admitted in San Jose that his request for a multinational military force to watch over his country's border with Nicaragua must be approved by the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly.

The request that Costa Rican formally filed with the OAS stipulates that the military force must comprise members of the armies of the four countries that compose the Contadora group: Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama.

According th Costa Rican Government authorities, only such a military presence at the border can prevent the launching of counterrevolutionary attacks against Nicaragua from Costa Rica. The Contadora foreign ministers have decided to meet urgently in Panama City on Wednesday in view of the deteriorating situation in Central America.

HAVANA REPORT ON ANTI-SANDINIST RECRUITMENT

PA092207 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 7 May 83

[Text] Costa Rican youth are being recruited by the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary forces, whose camps are in northern Costa Rica. This was charged by Carmen Hurtado, mother of Costa Rican youth Concepcion Blandon, who died in Nicaragua during a clash with Sandinist People's Army forces. Carmen Hurtado disclosed that her son joined traitor Eden Pastora's counterrevolutionary forces for a monthly wage. It has been learned that the recruitment campaign extends to former officials of the security forces, such as a former civil guardsman who is now in one of Pastora's camps in Poco Sol, Los Chiles in northern Costa Rica.

Other reports published by the San Jose press indicate that the counterrevolutionaries are offering to pay the Costa Ricans well, either for joining them in the fighting or carrying out other tasks, such as transporting weapons and food or engaging in espionage missions. The counterrevolutionaries have broad support from local ranch-owners, on whose land their camps are located. It was reported that on Thursday, Costa Rican Civil Guard members arrested four Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries near the border, but they were freed a short time later.

EL SALVADOR

SOLDIER ADMITS TO KILLING U.S. CITIZEN KLINE

PA082116 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 7 May 83 pp 4, 67

[Text] Subsergeant Jose Desposorio Lopez Garcia has taken responsibility for the death of 32-year-old U.S. citizen Michael David Kline, who was killed on 13 October 1982 in the Municipality of Gotera. The report on the crime said that Michael David Kline was traveling on a bus to San Francisco Gotera when soldiers at a checkpoint stopped the bus for inspection. The U.S. citizen, however, was unaware of what was happening and did not get off the bus.

The subsergeant ordered that Kline be removed from the bus and that he remain with the troops. He then ordered the bus to move on, while Kline was taken away in another vehicle.

According to Subsgt Lopez Garcia's report, Michael David Kline suddenly rushed toward one of the soldiers to grab his rifle, so the subsergeant killed him.

The subsergeant was accompanied by soldiers Hector Antonio Urbina Reyes and Cristobal Garcia, all three members of the Armed Forces Commando Training Center. They were serving as guards for a radio relay station in El Llano de Santiago, in the municipalty of San Francisco Gotera, Morazan Department.

The Attorney General's Office, which had requested that the investigations into the incident be expanded, today requested a copy of the subsergeant's official report on how the crime occurred. The autopsy on the body of Michael David Kline on 14 October, after it was brought to San Salvador from the scene of the crime, indicated that the sustained bullet wounds from a G-3 rifle.

The case is being investigated by the second penal court of San Francisco Gotera, Morazan Department. The subsergeant and the two soldiers who were accompanying him are being held in the Gotera prison.

RADIO CITES TWO GUERRILLA ATTACKS ON SUCHITOTO

PA100236 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 May 83

[Text] Our news department received a report this morning that well-armed guerrillas launched an attack on Suchitoto at 1700 last Saturday but failed to occupy the city. The guerrillas were repelled after 3 hours of intense gunfire, the report indicated.

We also learned that the guerrillas again tried and failed to seize the city at 0800 today. Our source did not know if there were any casualties. The latest reports we have received indicate that business in Suchitoto is normal.

RADIO VENCEREMOS REPORTS ON FMLN ACTIVITIES

Rebels To Prevent Bridge Repair

PA061708 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 6 May 83

[Communique issued by the Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front General Command -- no date given]

[Text] The General Command of the Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front announces that our military units located in different points throughout the country's eastern zone have received orders to prevent the repair of bridges that were recently destroyed by our forces in the eastern zone. In compliance with this order, our military units will proceed to destroy all the equipment, stationary or in transit, to repair the bridges.

We also announce that the equipment used for bridge repair will be destroyed without notice wherever such works are underway. Our military units will attack the security forces or Army units in charge of protecting these works. We are warning all operators of repair equipment and to civilian personnel assigned to these works to be on the alert of our forces' actions and to abide by their instructions as they proceed to carry out their mission.

We are not going to stop sabotating the dictatorship's war economy. We are going to deliver advance blows to the millions of dollars in aid that Reagan is trying to obtain to finance the genocidal dictatorship's military plans.

Revolution or death, we will win. [Signed] Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front General Command.

Failure of Army Offensive

PA070136 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 6 May 83

[Text] The dictatorship has failed again in Guazapa. Despite all the propaganda, the "Salitre 10" Operation has been a complete failure. This is the 14th offensive that the dictatorship has launched to try and dislodge our forces from heroic Guazapa Hill. The truth is that our forces were not even hard pressed, yet the enemy is now announcing that it is beginning the third phase of "Salitre 10." This is nothing but pure propaganda because the enemy has not shown any ability to continue fighting against our forces on Guazapa Hill. This false offensive is the only alternative left to the dictatorship.

Our companeros on Guazapa Hill reported that on 22 April the army gathered approximately 1,500 men in the southern and eastern zones of Guazapa Hill. These men advanced on our positions on Guazapa Hill, supported by artillery fire. There were fierce clashes as the enemy tried to encircle our forces, which they failed to do.

The first phase of the much-publicized "Salitre 10" operation did not yield the results the dictatorship expected. In view of this, the Army went ahead with the second phase, again to try and dislodge us from our positions. Some 1,500 men were deployed along the San Martin-Suchitoto highway to carry out this operation. The results were the same as before; total failure. The highly publicized actions of the second phase of the "Salitre 10" Operation came to nothing. In view of this, the Armed Forces Press Committee, Coprefa, trying not to look ridiculous and to prevent the demoralization of its units, is now talking of a nonexistent third offensive. How can this be possible, if its worn-out, demoralized troops have not been able to keep fighting against our forces on Guazapa Hill?

The Army high command, worried over the blows our forces have dealt them in the east, has been forced to give up all plans for an offensive. The only alternative for the dictatorship is to lie. For instance, to prevent the total demoralization of its troops, it has announced the death of 60 guerrillas and of Commander Misael Gallardo. Our companeros on Guazapa Hill have reported that our army and militia units on Guazpa Hill are in perfect condition, with a high fighting spirit, and are determined to continue struggling tirelessly until the people's final victory.

Clashes in San Vicente

PA070304 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 6 May 83

[Text] In northern San Vicente Department the so-called Cazadores were the ones who ended up being hunted. In other words, they came for wool and returned home shorn. A military report sent by our companeros from the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front indicates that on 5 May, FMLN units clashed with an enemy battalion from the Cojutepeque garrison in Cabanas that was trying to comb the area north of San Sebastian, in San Vicente Department. We had the enemy forces pinned down for approximately 8 hours. They managed to escape thanks to massive support for infantry reinforcements, artillery and the air force.

During these clashes we inflicted no fewer than 15 dead and wounded on the dictatorship. Our forces withdrew after hitting the enemy and foiling their offensive plans aimed mainly at the civilian population of the zone. This operation was led by Companeros Edgar and Bartolo.

Commander Camilo sent this report from our positions in San Vicente Department. From the four compass points of El Salvador, the people are giving their oppressors a thousand blows.

1981 Massacre Recalled

PA070442 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 7 May 83

[Text] As a result of Reagan's difficulties in securing approval for the millions of dollars that would come to expand the dictatorship's genocidal capability, there has been talk about the need for punishing the killers of several U.S. citizens. These assassins are members of the Salvadoran Armed Forces, including the National Guard, the Gotera command center, etc.

However, no mention has been made of more than 40,000 Salvadorans who have been brutally killed by the repressive corps. And not a word has been said about the worst and most shameless crime committed by the High Command with open participation by U.S. advisers. We are referring to the massacre committed in December 1981 in cantons such as (El Mozote), (Cerro Pando), Potrerito, (Rancherias) and others. In these cantons more than 1,000 peasants -- most of them elderly persons, women and children -- were massacred.

There is much evidence on this massacre, and many witnesses; and we make an oath, in front of our people, that the day will come when the guilty persons will be punished; the High Command and Jose Napoleon Duarte, their big accomplice who, having evidence in his own hands, was cynical enough to deny the massacre. Justice will be applied to Lieutenant Colonel Domingo Monterrosa, Major (Caceres Cabreras) and others who directed the massacre carried out by the Atlacatl Battalion in Morazan.

A few days ago, on 22 April, the FMLN captured sub-sergeant (Marco Tulio Moran Burgos), of the Sierpe Battalion, who was previously a member of the Atlacatl Battalion. This prisoner of war has presented new evidence on the (El Mozote) massacre, since he saw the violation of young women and the machinegunning of children. (Moran Burgos) was a radioman then. He was moving along with officer (Elgar Guzman Parada), and he saw how a U.S. adviser (?incinerated) several victims of the massacre.

This former member of Atlacatl Battalion has stated that U.S. advisers participated in the tactical direction of the (El Mozote) massacre. He has made several charges. One is that Lieutenant (Mario Antonio Siviesar) and Lieutenant (Edgardo Guzman Parada), from the Treasury Police, used M-60 machineguns to massacre dozens of innocent townspeople inside the (El Mozote) church.

In a future broadcast we will air the statements of this former member of the Atlacatl Battalion. We urge the news media to be alert for these statements. We especially urge the attention of the U.S. people, so they will realize how the millions of dollars and the advisers that Reagan sends to El Salvador serve to train criminal battalions that attack our people and sustain a genocide of big proportions.

Clash With Airborne Troops

PA080144 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 7 May 83

[Text] We have received a report from Guazapa indicating that FMLN forces at Guazapa Hill, in the (Canal) Canton near Zapote, have clashed with airborne troops. According to our report, the dictatorship's troops have suffered many casualties as a result. A section leader and a soldier were killed and many soldiers were wounded. Reports also indicate that the airborne troops are being pushed back by our forces and that the enemy has been unable to break through the pincer operation staged by our fighters, despite the enemy air force's actions.

Everything seems to indicate that the enemy is gathering reinforcements in Suchitoto to assist the airborne troops who are being seriously pressed by our forces in Guazapa.

Commanders Mauricio Carcamo, Mardoqueo and Manolo are coordinating these operations. This reort is signed by Commanders Miasael Gallardo and Rogelio Martinez from Guazapa.

Commander Pedro Guerra Alegria has promised to send us more information on the fighting in Guazapa, where the 60 guerrillas who Col (Onesifero Blandon) said were killed bv his troops are now haunting the dictatorship. Go on, companeros of Guazapa, hit the enemy hard.

Central Front Report

PA090419 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 9 May 83

[Text] A report received from the Modesto Ramirez Central Front indicates that at 0130 today, within the "Commander Ana Maria, We Swear To Win" campaign, combined FMLN forces began an operation called "In the Fatherland of Farabundo Marti, We Advance With New Victories." The action consisted of an annihilation attack on enemy positions in Cinquera and surrounding positions at Plan de la Mesa, El Zapote, El Coyote, La Joya, and others, all of which are located in Cabanas Department.

At 0830, those forces attacked enemy forces in Cinquera with the following results: We recovered 42 rifles, one 81-mm mortar, 2 military radios, 10,000 5.56 mm rounds, 1,000 5.53 mm rounds, and a large amount of ammunition for .50-cal machineguns and we inflicted 60 casualties on the enemy.

Fighting continues in the surrounding areas. At 0730, an enemy reinforcement unit was ambushed between Jutiapa and Tejutepeque, leading to a skirmish with other reinforcements. In the fighting, the following material was recovered: 14 M-16 rifles and a military radio, as well as a large amount of ammunition and other war material. The number of dead and wounded inflicted on the dictatorship in this fight has not yet been determined. The reinforcements at Tejutepeque remain surrounded. In the face of the thrust from our fighters, a large number of troops who were at the El Zapote, El Coyote and Santa Rita fled in panic.

At 1130, intensive fighting was continuing at the positions at Plaza de las Mesas, with the enemy positions reduced to two trenches containing only five or six men. The rest of the enemy forces had been annihilated.

At 1300 that position fell to our forces, with the following results: 18 M-16 rifles were recovered, as well as one 60-mm mortar and a military radio. At this time, total enemy casualties are still unknown.

On the highway from Tejutepeque to Cinquera, in the direction of Plan de las Mesas, intensive fighting is underway with enemy reinforcements that are trying to enter the area. They have been unsuccessful to date. The morale of the troops at the El Coyote, El Zapote, and Santa Rica positions is very low, because they fled in panic within just a few minutes.

More information will be given in other war bulletins. United to fight until the final victory! Revolution or death, we will win' [Signed] Commanders Ricardo Gutierrez and Ramiro Vasquez

Report on Guazapa Clash

PA092258 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 8 May 83

[War report from the Guazapa sector of the FMLN's Modesto Ramirez Front in El Salvador -- live relay]

[Text] On 6 May our forces clashed with Vides Casanova's troops and practically eliminated the second airborne company, inflicting heavy casualties on the airborne troops. We recovered the following material: two communications radios, fifteen M-16 rifles, one 90-mm cannon, one 60-mm mortar, one M-79 grenade launcher, three M-60 machineguns, one infrared gunsight, one Claymore mine, a large amount of ammunition and other war material.

The casualties inflicted on the enemy included one officer and many troops. The unit was headed by Lieutenant Saul Barahona A. and Lieutenant Hernandez. The 145 enemy soldiers, despite air and artillery support, were defeated by a handful of heroic FMLN fighters at Guazapa Hill. We did not even need to match the enemy force, much less employ all of our military might. The fighting was practically man-to-man on terrain chosen by the enemy to demonstrate its morale and its fighting ability.

This airborne unit, considered stormtroopers and part of the government's special forces, which was trained and equipped with infrared sights by the North Americans, was virtually torn apart and annihilated by our forces. This setback not only constitutes a slap in big-mouth Vides Casanova's face, but amounts to the destruction, on the battlefield, of the U.S. counterinsurgency operational scheme. As of today, the enemy must either send their officers and troops to certain death or seek new tactics, as they have met with failure in all tactics tried to date.

Today, 7 May, the enemy has launched new bombing attacks, but has not shown up, even to pick up its dead. We will continue to report on actions here at Guazapa Hill.

Revolution or death, we will win! United to fight until final victory! [Signed] Commanders Misael Gallardo and Rogelio Martinez

RADIO FARABUNDO MARTI DECRIES ELECTION STEPS

PA091500 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] The U.S. advisers that Reagan has sent to direct the electoral farce are already in our country, taking the first steps toward assuming control of the announced presidential elections.

They recently visited the National Conciliation Party headquarters, probably to collect information on fraudulent experiences. They did not let journalists take pictures, nor did they provide any information on the nature of their activities. The mystery shrouding this shameless intervention is such that only the journalists' insistence made it possible to obtain the names of these two figures.

Until yesterday, the U.S. advisers had not even visited the Central Electoral Council headquarters. Spokesmen for that council, however, have openly admitted that the U.S. advisers came as computer technicians. These Yankee advisers are Ronald Reagan's direct representatives. They are here openly and directly imparting the imperialists' instructions. Our people condemn the electoral farce. Our people reject [words indistinct].

HAVANA ON FMLN ACTIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

PA092009 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 7 May 83

[Text] The Salvadoran Army sustained many casualties in the past few hours during clashes with the FMLN forces in towns in San Vicenta, Santa Ana and San Miguel Departments. The Salvadoran rebels also continued their sabotage of the electric power system, which caused new outages in eastern El Salvador and in San Salvador. A guerrilla detachment totally destroyed a U.S. Exxon company gasoline station 22 km from San Salvador.

The Human Rights Commission of El Salvador has demanded the application of a total and unconditional amnesty for all political prisoners, and that the whereabouts of some 3,000 missing people be revealed.

A statement by the commission in response to the proclamation of a so-called amnesty by the Alvaro Magana regime indicated that the essential right to freedom must not be used for propaganda means. If Alvaro Magana wants to show his peaceful intentions, the statement added, he cannot ignore the situation of 3,000 missing people, ignore the constant political assassinations, or be unaware of the fate of hundreds of prisoners who will be discriminated against by the new law.

HONDURAS

HAVANA CITES REVOLUTIONARY LEADER'S REMARKS

PA092016 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] Commander (Manuel Federico), coordinator of the National Unity Directorate and leader of the People's Armed Forces [Fuerzas Armadas del Pueblo -- FAP] of Honduras, has said in Mexico City that one of the objectives of the Honduran revolutionary struggle is to destroy the Somozist army that is in Honduras. The Honduran revolutionary leader charged that his country is occupied by foreign troops that include former Somozist guardsmen and more than 400 advisers from the United States, Israel and other countries. He said this shows that Honduras is the U.S. operations center to attack the other Central American countries, especially Nicaragua.

Commander (Manuel Federico) stressed the consolidation of the unity of the Honduran revolutionary movement, which is shown with the creation of the National Unity Directorate, which is made up of five Honduran Revolutionary organizations.

NICARAGUA

D'ESCOTO GIVES SPEECH AT UN SECURITY COUNCIL

PA091753 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1533 GMT 9 May 83

[Speech by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto at the UN Security Council in New York -- live]

[Text] Thank you, Mr President. First of all, let me congratulate you for having taken over the presidency of the Security Council this month. Your vast experience as a distinguished politician of your country and particularly your experience as Zaire's permament representative and as foreign minister guarantee the wise handling of the tasks and the responsibility that you now have.

Mr President, members of the Council: We have once again been forced to resort to this body to report on the increasingly greater magnitude of the aggression that Nicaragua is suffering and on the increasingly bigger damage, suffering, death and destruction that this aggression is causing in my country.

In March 1982, a careful analysis of the statements and actions of the U.S. Government on the one hand, and the increase of military incursions on our northern border on the other hand, led Nicaragua to the conclusion that the United States was promoting the escalation of its armed intervention against our country. On that occasion, Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra appeared before this Council to warn the nations of the world that the Reagan administration was preparing to invade Nicaragua massively from Honduras. Then as now, we come in search of peace and not of confrontation.

Today, at this time, my country is the victim of an invasion that began at the end of 1982, an invasion that involves thousands of soldiers, mainly former members of the genocidal Somozist guard. This invasion has caused the death of more than 500 Nicaraguan brothers so far this year, and as long as it continues to be directed, financed and armed by the Reagan administration, it will continue to kill, to sow terror and anguish among our people, and to cause increasingly more material damage on our impoverished and destroyed country.

At this time and under these circumstances, we come to tell you that we want peace; that we need peace; that our people and government demand peace and the end of unjustifiable and criminal aggression of which we are the victims.

We have come today as we did in March 1982 and March 1983 to issue call for respect for the sacred principles of nonintervention in the domestic affairs of sovereign states. We come to insist on the need and the obligation of resorting to dialogue to solve differences between governments and peoples, and in case the possibilities of obtaining satisfaction through direct dialogue are exhausted, to resort to this Council but in no case to permit that member states of our organization, no matter how big, rich or powerful, resort to the use force as a means to impose their will. All countries, no matter how small, have the same right to be respected.

When we first brought up our case to this Council on 2 April 1982, the Latin American members of the Council -- Panama and Guyana -- introduced a draft resolution reminding all the states of their obligations under the charter. Of the 15 member countries of the Council, 12 countries voted in favor and 2 abstained.

As you will recall Mr president, the United States vetoed the resolution. This was justly deplored by the Nonaligned Countries Movement in its June 1982 ministerial meeting. Only 6 weeks ago, in the face of the materialization of the threat, we were forced once again to resort to this council to denounce the massive invasion of Nicaragua organized, financed, armed and directed by a great power that, assuming the right that solely and exclusively belongs to our people to decide whether the Sandinist people's revolution fulfills the desires of the Nicaraguan people, uses members of the criminal Somozist guard -- whom President Reagan describes as Freedom Fighters -- as an instrument to impose once again its type of democracy in Nicaragua.

We repeat that so far this year this policy of aggression against Nicaragua has already caused the death of more than 500 Nicaraguan brothers. Recently our government quantified the physical damage, the delays in development projects and loss of profits at a total of 581.4 million cordobas. Of this figure, the physical damage amounts to 113.4 million cordobas, including the destruction of machinery and equipment, installations, schools and health centers and the destruction of 143 vehicles. There have been 119.8 million cordobas worth of delays in projects and programs.

The damage to production amounts to 244.2 million cordobas. The loss of profits is estimated at 104 million cordobas, which represents only a part because the amount is logically larger due to the transfer of workers to defense tasks; the use of productive resources; expenses to replace equipment, much of which involves new imports; and the decrease of exports.

To the economic destruction, we must add the military aggressions already denounced in our last appearance. It is worth noting that in April alone, 12 naval aggressions, 2 of them by U.S. frigates -- the FF 1072 Blakely and the FF 6 Julius Furer -- were carried out. Last month there were 17 armed incursions, including 13 attacks on border posts, which culminated with the mass invasion from Honduran territory of some 1,200 Somozist guardsmen on 30 April, that is, 3 days after President Reagan's speech to the joint session of Congress. These invading forces were repelled and they fled to their sanctuary in Honduran territory, where they have regrouped and form part of the more than 2,000 champions of Somozist freedom, as President Reagan describes the criminals who are ready to carry out a new invasion.

Meanwhile, at this time, there are 2,000 other mercenaries prepared and ready, waiting only for the order to invade the zone of northern Zelaya from Honduran territory.

The statement that the United States is waging war against Nicaragua cannot be described as rhetoric or even as a provocative rhetoric. The war that the Reagan administration is waging against Nicaragua is no less real because it has not been officially declared. It does not stop being a war of the Reagan administration because of the fact that the combatants are not regular troops of the U.S. Army. As long as the U.S. Government organizes the armed aggression against our nation.

The fact that the U.S. superpower is waging this war against small, martyred and impoverished Nicaragua has been broadly reported by all the international news media, including the U.S. media. It has also been denounced by many U.S. legislators, and it has now been admitted by the U.S. President.

I will not try to prove something that is obvious to all of you, Mr President; I will simply remind you of what the U.S. news media have reported, based on statements by the leaders of the invading forces, the FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force], on the unique command structure of what they euphemistically call the insurgency.

According to these reports, the brain of the command structure is a body completely comprised of North Americans -- CIA experts and representatives of the U.S. Army Southern Command stationed in the Panama Canal Zone. The responsibility of this general staff is to transmit orders to a second general staff mainly made up of Honduran Army officers, which in turn passes the orders to a third general staff made up of officers of the Somozist guard.

According to the U.S. media, and recently the magazine TIME in its 4 April 1983 issue, the coordinator of these various general staffs is none other than John Negroponte, U.S. ambassador to Honduras, who is infamously remembered for his role in the illegal, unjust and equally undeclared U.S. war against the peoples of Indochina. The 2 May 1983 issue of U.S. NEW AND WORLD REPORT published thoughts of several U.S. legislators about what the Reagan Administration is doing against Nicaragua. According to this weekly, Representative Berkeley Bedell, a Democrat from Iowa, said, and I quote: I returned from my recent visit to Nicaragua with three strong beliefs. First, what we are doing is morally wrong. These counterrevolutionaries are directed by Somoza's security guards. They are guilty of atrocities during Somoza's regime. They are now sweeping Nicaragua's rural areas, kidnapping and murdering innocent civilians. Representative Bedell continued: Second, what we are doing is pragmatically incorrect. We are supplying, he said, to the Nicaraguan Government justification for some of their economic difficulties. And finally, the U.S. congressman said, I think it is legally wrong. The president is violating the nation's law and he is not respecting the treaties that the United States has signed.

The special ministerial meeting of the Nonaligned Countries Movement's coordinating bureau held in Managua on 10-14 January 1983 -- one of the most heavily attended in the history of our movement and with the highest level of representation -- condemned the U.S. policy toward Nicaragua in the following terms.

I quote: The ministers condemned the aggressions and threats against Nicaragua, the financing of covert actions, the use of U.S. territory and of Nicaragua's neighboring countries for the training of counterrevolutionary forces, and the violation of its airspace and territorial waters by U.S. airplanes and ships. These actions have brought about terrorist acts, armed attacks, the blowing up of bridges, sabotage and other actions directed at the overthrow of the revolutionary government. This has left a toll of more than 400 Nicaraguans dead, wounded and kidnapped since 1979.

It must be recalled that this was being said in January this year. In addition, there was much material damage and a number of infrastructure facilities were lost. The ministers specifically condemned the systematic attacks carried out against Nicaragua from the other side of the northern border by armed bands of former Somozist guardsmen. They indicated that these actions were part of a deliberate plan designed to harass and destabilize Nicaragua. This has been publicly acknowledge. End of quote.

Two months later, the seventh summit meeting of chiefs of state or of government of the Nonaligned Movement, which was held in New Delhi, again called for an end to the hostile activities against Nicaragua. I quote: It exhorts the U.S. and Honduran governments to [11-second break in transmission] -- also repudiates it.

The 2 May 1983 edition of the weekly NEWSWEEK quotes Clarence Long, Democratic congressman from Maryland, as follows: I received 1,000 letters during a 1-month period. Of these, only seven endorsed President Reagan's Central American policy.

A survey conducted by the prestigious Harris Poll, which was published on 5 May, stressed, and I quote: Despite President Reagan's unusual move of addressing a joint congressional session, a considerable majority of the U.S. people oppose the President's policy on Central America. The nationwide survey conducted between 29 April -- that is, 2 days after President Reagan's speech -- and 1 May, gave a result of 64 percent of the population against, and only 31 percent in favor of the Reagan administration's Central American policy. Lou Harris, who prepared the survey, has described this result as a firm rejection of a policy that is perceived as militaristic and without any possibility of success.

Fearful of completely losing its credibility before its own people, the Reagan administration has chosen to shield itself with U.S. Govenrment practice which consists of neither denying nor admitting anything about the covert actions carried out against other states. However, in the face of the insistent charges that the Reagan administration is directing and financing the aggression against the legitimate Nicaraguan Government, they have had to admit the undeniable reality in increasingly explicit fashiion. Obviously, this is what THE NEW YORK TIMES referred to in its 1 May editorial on President Reagan's 27 April speech. The editorial says that, and I quote: President Reagan did not deny the undeniable. End of quote.

However, all these implicit acknowledgements merely have a historical value now, since in his 4 May news conference President Reagan himself admitted his role in this dirty war. As one says in legal jargon, if a party confesses, there is no further need to present evidence.

Mr President, Mssrs representatives: President Ronald Reagan's admissions and remarks at the news conference on 4 May and in his speech to Congress the week before last, would have been enough to force us to request this Security Council meeting because for us, as well as for anyone with a clear understanding, they consitute a veritable declaration of war by the Reagan administration, as well as clear evidence that they intend to maintain a line that obviously violates the most elemental rules of international law on which relations among sovereign states should be based.

Furthermore, these remarks merely confirm the experience, the suffering, the destruction and death in our invaded country.

I invite you, council colleagues, to reflect on whether we are willing to let President Reagan assume for the United States the right to proclaim illegitimate those governments which are not to its liking, and to proceed to overthrow them. This, which THE WASHINGTON POST terms the Reagan doctrine, is the biggest threat and the biggest danger for international peace and security.

I do not want to take too long inviting you to review the absured allegation that the Reagan administration is not really trying to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government.

Not long ago, Messrs Representatives, members of this Council, several U.S. parliamentarians visited us in Nicaragua. During their talks with the chief of state, which I also attended, one of them, a member of the House Select Intelligence Committee, asked us: Why are you worried about an invasion involving some 7,500 armed men? Why are you worried? Are you that weak, that fragile, that you think you can be overthrown in this manner? We did not answer anything, but of his own initiative he said: Why should you worry even if the Honduran Government were to become involved? Aren't you capable of defending yourselves? I think that the cynicism implicit in this observation does not merit any comment.

We were saying, however, that we did not want to waste too much time analyzing the Reagan administration's absurd allegation that they are not really violating any law because they are not really trying to overthrow the Nicaraguan regime. I would merely like to bring to your attention a remark by Legislator Jim Leach, a Republican from Iowa. In the 2 May edition of the weekly U.S. NEWS and WORLD REPORT -- please allow me, Mr President, to quote him briefly -- Congressman Leach says the following, and I quote: The administration is saying now that it is not our purpose to overthrow the Nicaraguan regime, even though this may be the goal of the groups that we are helping. Accepting such a sophism, Congressman Leach notes, is equivalent to believing in fairy tales. End of quote.

Mr President: Like many other regions of our strife-torn planet, Central America is in a state of marked political upheaval due to the poverty and archaic political and social structures that deny their peoples the kind of life that they justly demand. However, we have not come here to discuss the problems of other countries. Backed by its full rights, Nicaragua presents solely and exclusively the grave problem and consequences of the aggression of which it is a victim for consideration by this Council. As for the consequences, I also want to alert the international community to the undeniable fact that to the extent that the U.S. Government continues to utilize certain regional states and to affect the neutrality of others to attack Nicaragua, the danger of regionalizing the war increases. Instead of remaining intent on implementing a policy toward Central America which most of the Latin American and European governments have rejected because it is incorrect and based on false premises, the Reagan administration would do well to endorse the Contadora Group's efforts, which continue to be the major Latin American effort to contribute to peace in Central America. Nicaragua is intent, and will remain intent, on strengthening this intiative.

Our purpose in bringing to this Council the case of the war that the U.S. Government is waging against Nicaragua, a member state of this Council, is first of all to obtain, in the fulfilling of our primary responsibility, the adoption of all the measures needed in the vast field of our mandate to put an end to this aggression which from any stand point is both cruel and unjustifiable.

In his report on the work carried out by this organization, read at the 37th period of sessions of the UN General Assembly, Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar told us, and I quote: The Security Council, the major UN body for the maintenance of peace and security, is often incapable of adopting decisive measures to resolve international conflicts. Those who feel strong enough either disobey or ignore its resolutions. The secretary general added: In my view, our most urgent goal is to reconstruct the charter's concept regarding collective actions on behalf of peace and security so that the United Nations may be in a better position to fulfill its basic function. The secretary general also referred to the lack of an effective system of collective security, noting that without such system there can be no safe defense or refuge for the small and the weak.

As a member of this Council, Nicaragua has been reflecting very seriously about the relevency of those remarks by the secretary general. My government, Mr President, confirmed a number of positions expressed on previous occasions in a note sent to the president of this Council by the Nicaraguan representative. In document (?SR) 15-681 we expressed our willingness to let the Security Council give a mandate to the UN secretary general, His Excellency Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, so that, in coordination with the countries that promoted the Contadora initiative, he might contribute to the establishment of a dialogue between Nicaragua and Honduras and between Nicaragua and the United States. In that same document, my government suggested that the United Nations be the venue for such a dialogue.

I think that we should thank the secretary general for his availability, his marked interest in the search for mechanisms for peaceful solutions, his offering of good offices and his frank desire to contribute to the search for peace that our peoples are justly demanding.

The Security Council must acknowledge that any solution to the situation that my country is bringing forth today has as logical and fundamental prerequisites the unconditional withdrawal of the genocidal forces that the United States has introduced into our country, the suspension of the border attacks that the United States directs and finances from Honduran territory, the permanent withdrawal of U.S. warships from our territorial waters, the suspension of spy flights over our nation, and an end to the U.S. intelligence community's participation in the financing, organization and leadership of forces, as well as in overt or covert plans against Nicaragua.

From this forum we would like to address that great power which today, as on so many previous occasions in our history, is attacking us and trying to restrict our right to self-determination. We feel that the United States should place its great capacity and influence at the service of peace rather than waging war against countries such as Nicaragua, which are solely and exclusively intent on eradicating injustice and in transforming the obsolete political, social and economic structures that for centuries had been oppressing our people and denying them the right to aspire to an honorable life. In other words, the United States should desist of its aggressive policy against Nicaragua, which is only interested in constructing peace and which, therefore, is intent on bringing about the profound transformations that justice demands, in the conviction that without justice, peace is an unattainable illusion.

We want to call on the United States so that instead of always choosing militaristic measures it will place its capacity and influence at the service of negotiated political solutions.

Finally, we urge the United States to understand that it is a historical mistake to try to explain the political upheaval in several of the Central American countries in terms of East-West tensions. We suggest that they reflect on what a number of Latin American and European statesmen have been repeating to them in increasingly insistent fashion: that the Central American crisis responds mostly to the historical postponement of those measures which could have satisfied the demands of the regional peoples, who have been increasingly plunged into a vicious circle characterized by poverty, exploitation, illness, and hunger.

We once again reiterate our willingness to participate in an immediate and unconditional dialogue with the U.S. Government at a level suitable enough to provide real solutions to the critical situation created by the U.S. aggression against our country.

We feel that we have been sufficiently clear concerning our purposes in requesting the convocation of this Council. We have come in search of peace before those of us who have been charted with the highest responsibility on our planet, to watch over international peace and security. We have not come in search of condemnation, but rather in search of peace. We want all the members of our organization, regardless of their size and power, to become aware of their unavoidable duty to respect the fundamental principles set forth in the charter.

We have not come here to make recriminations or to demand any satisfaction for the damages caused. We don't know how life can be restored to those Nicaraguan brothers and sisters who have fallen under the criminal bullets of the Somozists who create terror in our homeland.

Even as I talk to you now, they are killing our heroic border guards, our peasants, students, technicians and doctors, both the local and foreign ones, as well as the members of our glorious Sandinist Peoples Army, reservists and militiamen. We have come to respond to death and aggression with an invitation to hold frank and constructive dialogue. We abhor war; we want peace. What do my Security Council colleagues respond to this? Thank you very much, Mr President.

MINISTRY REACTS TO U.S. SUGAR QUOTA REDUCTION

PA100422 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 10 May 83

[Communique issued by Nicaraguan Foreign Affairs Ministry in Managua on 9 May 1983 -- read by announcer]

[Text] The Nicaraguan Foreign Affairs Ministry reports the following:

Today, 9 May 0930, U.S. Ambassador Anthony Quainton, during a meeting with Acting Foreign Minister Companera Nora Astorga, reported the following decision by his government:

1. The reduction of Nicaragua's sugar quota from 58,500 short tons to 6,000 short tons of raw sugar, which represents a reduction of 52,800 short tons or a 90-percent reduction in the quota for fiscal year 1983-1984 which begins on 1 October 1983.

2. He reported that the reasons for the reduction are the following:

a. Nicaragua's repeated rejection of multilateral negotiations at a regional level with the Central American countries.
b. Nicaragua's support for the Salvadoran guerrillas through weapons and training.
c. The hostile rhetoric used by the Nicaraguan Government against the U.S. Government at international forums, such as the United Nations and others.
d. He said, and we quote: We are not prepared to grant the Nicaraguan Government the financial benefit resulting from the sugar quota.
e. He added that the reduction in Nicaragua's quota will be to the benefit of the Salvadoran, Honduran and Costa Rican governments.

This step by the U.S. Government violates the most elementary rules of international law and regulations of international bodies such as the United Nations, SELA, OAS, UNCTAD, the Group of 77 and others, which expressly prohibit the application or establishment of coercive measures of an economic and political nature in violation of another state's sovereign will.

RAMIREZ RESPONDS TO U.S. QUOTA REDUCTION

PA100437 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 10 May 83

[Excerpt] Government Junta member Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado said today that the reduction of the sugar quota on the U.S. market will represent a loss to Nicaragua of some $12 million per year. The measure adopted by the U.S. Government, Ramirez Mercado pointed out, suggests that the Reagan administration is not interested in a political solution to the Central American problems.

The reduction of Nicaragua's sugar quota on the U.S. market constitutes a new act of aggression against our country by the U.S. Government and is also illegal, arbitrary and in violation of international agreements. Nicaragua, he added, will file the necessary charges with international economic organizations, and there is no doubt that the revolution will receive positive political answers.

Nicaragua has the alternative of placing its sugar on many other markets in the world, thus diversifying the trade of our traditional products, Dr Ramirez Mercado also said in reply to the U.S. Government's arbitrary measure.

SOURCES SAY UN BUFFER FORCE TO BE REQUESTED

PA091949 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 9 May 83

[Text] New York -- According to diplomatic sources, Nicaragua will ask the Security Council to send a UN buffer force to its border with Honduras.

This is the second time in slightly over 2 months that the Security Council will meet at the Nicaraguan Government's request to study the situation of the northern border with Honduras.

Nicaragua's proposal will apparently be based on the initiative launched by the countries that signed the Contadora Declaration, and it will suggest that the United Nations join in the search for a solution to the crisis.

DANIEL ORTEGA DELIVERS ADDRESS TO STATE COUNCIL

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[Speech by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction, at the opening session of the fourth State Council Legislative Period at the State Council Building in Managua -- live]

[Text] At the installation of this fourth period of State Council sessions, we greet the organizations represented here, which have been creative, critical and active members of this important organization, which for the first time in Nicaraguan history is truly democratic and popular.

Three years and 10 months ago, in the city of Leon, which was liberated by the daring of the Sandinist fighters, a Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction was taking office on the eve of the definitive victory.

On the great day, 18 July 1979, united by the jubilation over the people's victory, the Government of National Reconstruction was formed. By the decision of the FSLN alone, it was made up of Sandinist and non-Sandinist cadres, with the hope of uniting the most basic fibers of love for the fatherland, which we believed vibrated within all the men called upon by the vanguard to form its government of national unity.

The Government of National Reconstruction used as its base a government program approved by the FSLN that had never been discussed, modified or negotiated for with forces foreign to our organization, an organization that had itself been launched by the National Directorate as the fruit of the FSLN program, adapted to the historical circumstances to which we were subject.

The victory brought together around the revolutionary plan and the Government of National Reconstruction men who represented the most diverse interests. In those early times, the usurers believed that the revolutionary program would serve to protect them. The owners of large landed estates felt that the revolutionary program was their program. The businessmen felt that their time had come. The landowners, the owners of land parcels, wanted to take over the people's victory. The owners of factories, industries, newspapers and miscellaneous businesses thought this was their revolution. The capitalists, the exploiters and the rich interpreted the original program to favor themselves, and they felt that this was the revolution of the rich that would consolidate their positions so they could continue to exploit and dominate the workers, the poor and the humble of Nicaragua. To them nonalignment meant to continue to be submissive to Yankee policy. To them a mixed economy meant wealth for the rich, and hunger, the whip and jail for the poor. To them political pluralism meant many parties for the rich and no parties for the poor. To them freedom of the press meant newspapers and radio stations for the rich and silence for the poor.

They did not understand the revolution. They did not understand the heroic, generous people. They did not understand that the original program launched by the FSLN was a real program of national revolutionary unity. They did not understand that they should put aside their ambition, their thirst for gold, cordobas and wealth and respond to the demands of a people who had been historically oppressed and today were being freed of their chains, and that instead of destroying and crushing them, the people were inviting them to participate in the reconstruction of the nation.

In the first period, national unity was presented in the form of the nationalization of banks, foreign trade, natural resources, and the property of Somoza and the Somozists. It took the form of intervention of the illegally distributed land [repartos clandestinos]. It took the forms of the national literacy campaign and the organization of the people.

This led those selfish gentlemen to become disillusioned with the revolution. Some of them who were members of the Government of National Reconstruction went to Miami. Others, who were not members of the government, fled the capital from their businesses and left for Miami. Others remained to conspire and drain capital from inside Nicaragua. They are the ones who form cliques based on their common interests of exploiting, robbing and murdering the people with the Somozist guardesmen and the Yankees.

However, other men, many men who had fibers of honesty and who came from those same sectors, have joined in the historic effort of the revolutionary plan and are valuable cadres in the Government of National Reconstruction. Others are taking an active, efficient part in production, in the different sectors of agriculture, livestock raising, industry and commerce. They are patriotic producers, patriotic businessmen who have remained on the side of Nicaragua and its revolution.

Today, it is easier to see two fronts of struggle. On one hand, we have the working people, the laborers, the peasants, the artisans, the patriotic producers, the young, women, children, religious persons, intellectuals, professionals, soldiers, policemen and responsible political parties, who are building the new Nicaragua. On the other: Reagan and his sons of bitches, a concoction of former Somozist guards, traitor Pastora and Robelo, killers of women, children and workers who are trying to make the country retreat to Somozism but without Somoza.

Today, 3 years and 10 months after the installation of the revolutionary government, we can say that the revolution is advancing despite obstacles.

With each step, with each correctly implemented measure, we consolidate national unity around the original plan, which is democratic, popular and anti-imperialist. The work of the revolutionary state remains firm.

Today we are presenting a report for the 1982-1983 period. This will be a lengthy report, despite efforts made to summarize it for today's reading. We will begin with the production sector, stating that during this period, the revolutionary state, through the Agricultural Development and Agrarian Reform Ministry, continues to promote the country's agricultural and livestock transformation through the effective implementation of the agrarian reform law, the consolidation of the cooperative movement and the organized participation of the masses. To date, 23 percent of farming and grazing land falls within the people's property area [APP], with 15,247,250 manzanas in the hands of individual producers and of producers who are organized into credit and service cooperatives.

In 1982, 320 large landholdings composed of 310,000 manzanas were nationalized. [afectados]. The cooperative movement has continued to develop vigorously. To date, there are 3,057 associations consisting of 60,044 peasants. This represents the incorporation of more than 50 percent of the country's small and medium producers into the cooperative movement. Based on the agrarian reform law, the government has issued land titles to cooperatives and individual producers, covering 150,000 manzanas and benefiting more than 8,000 peasant families.

In the 3 years of our revolution, the 61 agrarian reform enterprises have increased their participation in the country's state-controlled area; last year, this increase went from 12 percent to 18 percent.

The APP has played an important part in the country's agriculture: cotton production, 21.2 percent; sugarcane, 29.3 percent; coffee, 20.3 percent; rice, 42.2 percent; and Havana tobacco, 100 percent.

These achievements in the transformation of the agricultural and livestock sector were not reflected in the real growth assessment of 1982. In effect, after a 23.3 percent growth rate in 1981, measured at 1980 prices, the agriculture sector did not grow in 1982.

The principal factors that negatively affected the growth rate were floods and draughts, the drop in prices for our export products on the international market, limitations imposed by the shortage of foreign exchange on importing equipment and spare parts, and counterrevolutionary activities.

The state-controlled area increased to 794,800 manzanas; that is, 11.6 percent less than in the previous period, due to a decrease of 101,000 manzanas as used in planting products for domestic consumption and of 3,700 manzanas for export products.

As for basic grains, very little motivation was shown in planting rice, beans and soybeans.

The remaining reason for the decrease in cultivated land was the heavy rains of May, which seriously damaged cultivated areas, delayed the preparation of land for planting and destroyed irrigation channels. We also endured the worst drought of the past 40 years, which prevented the germination of seeds and the normal development and growth of plants.

In the area of livestock, we surpassed the 1981 production of cattle. In 1982, slaughter increased 35 percent. This was a result of the drought, in that, to avoid the deterioration of pasture land, we decided to lower the weight limit on cattle received at the slaughterhouses from 360 to 320 kg.

As a result, the slaughter for export amounted to 107,400 head of cattle, while domestic consumption was 193,400 head of cattle. This indicates 53.4 percent and 10.2 percent increases, respectively, compared to 1981. Milk production was also quite satisfactory. Production amounted to 83.3 million gallons, compared to 81 million gallons in 1981, representing a 2.8 percent increase.

The reactivation of the pig farms permitted slaughter nationwide to reach 7,646,981 pounds in 1982, equivalent to a 20.4 percent increase compared to 1981. This result was achieved despite problems with pig cholera, grain shortages in the regions where [word indistinct] pigs are raised and some limitations on imports because of the scarcity of foreign exchange.

Poultry activity experienced greater vigor in 1982. 22.3 million pounds of meat were produced from the slaughter of 8 million birds. This represents a 38.7 percent [increase] in poundage and a 33.7 percent increase in the number of birds compared to 1981. Egg production was also satisfactory, with 18.1 million dozens producted, even though the activity was affected by the heavy rains in May, which drowned some 7,000 chicks, damaged 65,000 commercial eggs, damaged the infrastructure of farms and brought sorghum production to critical levels.

Amid these difficulties, the organized participation of our people in harvesting was decisive in obtaining results that overcame the obstacles.

As a result of the united effort of the institutions and the organized working people, the goal of 260,000 bales of cotton was surpassed: 353,000 bales were produced.

The goal of ENCAFE [Nicaraguan Coffee Enterprise] was 1.4 million quintals of coffee, but 1.43 million quintals of coffee were produced.

In the industrial sector, despite the world crisis, the inherited structural problems and the heavy dependence on imported raw materials for production and exports to the Central America market, the revolutionary government reduced the effects of these factors on employment and production levels for the most important products by improving on the estimates at the outset of 1982, which indicated a 13.5 percent drop in industrial production volumes and the closure of some 85 enterprises, with the resulting unemployment of 5,000 workers. By the end of the year, we had obtained only a 3 percent drop in the manufacturing production, the closure of only five enterprises with a total of 381 workers unemployed and the authorization for temporary closure of 16 firms employing 592 workers.

Although the production of beverages, tobacco, chemical products and construction materials decreased, the production of oil, flour, soap, matches, ground and instant coffee, textiles, medicines, metallic products, toothpaste and other products increased.

The People's Industrial Corporation [COIP] enterprises registered a 6 percent increase, despite the decrease in the manufacturing sector's production. They fulfilled 85 percent of their production goals and obtained 30 percent less of planned foreign exchange.

A number of measures were implemented to reduce [words indistinct] or irrationalities through the merger and specialization of some enterprises, such as the creation of the National Plastics Enterprise, the result of the merger and rationalization of six enterprises, the creation of the Nicaraguan Paper Manufacturing Complex through the merger and retionalization of four enterprises, the diversification of and specialization in the machinery industries, the achievement of foreign exchange savings through the centralization of some imports, modifications in containers and packages, and greater use of domestic raw materials.

The utilization of credit lines and donations from friendly governments permitted some $70 million worth of imports for the industrial sector.

As a result of the increase in organizational quality in the industrial sector, the offices in region two, Leon and Chinandega; region four, Masaya, Granada Carazo and Rivas; and special zone one, northern Zelaya, have increased attention to industrial enterprises and improved their knowledge of the regions' problems and industrial development potential.

The transformation of the industrial sector in 1983 includes the implementation of some 500 million cardobas' worth of strategic projects. These include the textile complex project in Managua and the expansion of the Solka Laboratories and of the Nicaraguan Salt Factory, which will increase its production of salt for industrial consumption and other uses.

Within the framework of the mixed economy, 159 million cordobas' worth of investments is planned in the private sector.

The People's Forest Corporation has achieved better organization of its enterprises and their reactivation has been promoted. Some $7 million have been invested in the purchase of new equipment for cutting and transporting lumber and of equipment for building and maintaining forest roads. A plan to export some $10 million worth of sawed lumber is underway. This is equivalent to a fourfold increase over last year's figure. Other projects being implemented are a large industrial center in northern Zelaya, another in southern Zelaya and the rehabilitation of the pine resin processing plant in special zone one in northern Zelaya. All of these projects reflect 600 million cordobas' worth of investments in 3 years.

In the fishing sector, despite the great difficulties in maintaining the fishing fleet, during the May 1981 - May 1983 period the Nicaraguan Institute of Fisheries [Inpesca] continued the reorganization phase of the sector, which includes the organization, reactivation and consolidation of the country's fishing activities. Along with physical limitations, the fishing sector has been forced to restrict its operations north of Puerto Cabezas from October to January 1983 by the counterrevolutionary bands' constant attacks in northern Nicaragua. Due to external factors, there has been a delay in the implementation of the development plan, the result of an undefined delay in the construction of vessels abroad, which has forced Inpesca to freeze plans to develop the Camilo Ortega fishing combine and the sea products and marine resources enterprises. It is important that we note that even though Inpesca had fishing fleet limitations, it harvested 5.9 million pounds of seafood and exported 308,000 pounds, generating $20 million in foreign exchange.

In the mining sector, we have tried, using available resources, to strengthen and promote both industrial and nonindustrial production of gold and silver, as well as nonmetallic production. There have been limitations in the exploitation of gold because of a reduction in yield, lesser use of installed capability and unforeseen stoppages resulting from the lack of raw materials. In the silver sector, the temporary closure of the Rosita mine caused by the exhaustion of the most productive veins has produced a decrease in exports. The decrease in the nonindustrial production of gold was also caused in part by storm damage which harmed the collectives at La Libertad, Santo Domingo, Villanueva and Bocay, and by the counterrevolutionary activities in the Atlantic zone. As of May 1983, industrial gold production amounted to 47,000 troy ounces and silver production was 60,000 troy ounces, which means 21 percent and 57 percent decreases compared to May 1982. The employment level in both metallic and nonmettallic mining was maintained at 2,970 workers.

As for natural resources, the Nicaraguan Natural Resources and Environment Institute [Irena] has implemented projects that reflect full sovereignty over the country's natural resources and the people's access to the benefits from the use of those resources. Irena's efforts focused on providing information on the wealth and potential of our natural resources and on the need to protect, conserve and develop them. In this sense, it organized national and international seminars, including the international workshop on the overall rescue and use of the Lake of Managua, which will be used as a point of reference in cleaning up that lake. Projects that are underway include reforestation and conservation of soil programs, seed banks, genetic improvement, wildlife protection and environmental improvement programs.

In the domestic trade sector, the state, acting through the Domestic Trade Ministry [Micoin], has oriented its goals toward guaranteeing the supply and distribution of the people's staples and acting against hoarding and profiteering, which oppose our people's interests. To this end, Micoin sold 5.3 million quintals of basic grains as of May 1983, 18 percent more than the amount sold as of May 1982.

This increase was covered with imports. The purchase of grains until May 1983 reflects a slight 4 percent decrease when compared to the May 1982 figures. This is due to the decrease in production, which was affected by the floods and the lengthy drought that followed.

The Nicaraguan Basic Food Enterprise [Enabas] purchased 50 percent of the gross product. Greater participation in and control of the marketing of rice and sorghum were noticeable. In order to market and guarantee the supply of staples, the state has 55,683 fixed distribution channels throughout the country.

It has been estimated that in the May 1982 to May 1983 period, subsidies related to price differentials will total 152.9 million cordobas, thus exceeding the figures for the previous period by 37 percent and guaranteeing lower prices to the people than Enabas paid both here and abroad.

This increase is in part due to the enterprise's greater participation in the marketing process and in improving the producers' prices during the 1982-1983 period.

A total of 44 new storage facilities were constructed in several departments at a cost of about 41.3 million cordobas. Storage capacity has now reached 600,000 quintals.

The consumption of national products has been increased through the People's Commercial Corporation [Corcop] which in this manner, has helped to promote the small and handicraft industries along with the Nicaraguan Enterprise for Fairs and Exhibits.

With the support of the credit lines granted by friendly countries and the trade between Cuba and Nicaragua, it has been possible to reactivate 95 percent of the Corcop enterprises. Surpluses have even been generated, which have been reinvested as working capital or used to buy capital goods. In the APP, a total of 2,750 family heads have remained employed at 41 Corcop enterprises.

Twenty-nine people's stores have been dedicated, for a total of 92 such stores throughout the country. Despite the revolution's efforts, there have been serious supply problems in connection with certain products in recent months. These supply problems must be viewed within the framework of the dependent capitalist economy imposed by imperialism and inherited by the Sandinist people's revolution. This structure is highly sensitive to the foreign sector and weak when it comes to generating internal productive mechanisms.

Due to the current world crisis, the foreign sector continues to be critical for the economy. Therefore, the supply problem cannot be understood without taking the import trade, which is the first link in the country's marketing chain, into consideration.

The supply problem must be viewed within the framework of a serious shortage of foreign currency; the gradual disintegration of the old productive apparatus, which is part of the process of transformation of the economy into a new one that responds to the needs of the great majority; the armed invasions fostered by U.S. imperialism and staged by the traitorous former Somozist guardsmen; and the hoarding and profiteering practiced by those who play with the people's basic needs.

The Sandinist people's revolution has been promoting measures designed to put an end to this dependence and to achieve economic independence, as well as to create a well-organized productive machinery that makes it possible to satisfy the people's needs domestically.

It is obvious, however, that more time is needed to achieve these goals, which are the result of profound transformations. Various actions have already been implemented and will be expanded in the future. These actions include: Improvement of the national production with an emphasis on the basic products generally consumed by the public; allocation of part of our scant foreign currency to the import of basic products for the people, improvement of the people's stores and, in line with this policy, the expansion and extension of the urban and rural people's supply centers; further expansion of the distribution apparatus so that the peasants, who traditionally have been left out, can have access to it; and the fighting of both hoarding and profiteering through better distribution mechanisms. In line with this measure, Micoin will have to improve its central and national structures and the consumers must become better organized. This involves the organization of consumers at the level of the mass organizations so they can defend themselves from profiteering and so that direct distribution channels can be established to guarantee the regular supply of staples at official prices, in permanent coordination with Micoin.

In the foreign trade area, our 1982 trade balance reflected the intensification of the world economic crisis and the transfer of this crisis to those developed countries that do not export oil.

The stagnation and decrease of export prices, along with the sustained increase of import prices, continued for the second consecutive year. In 1982 our exports totaled $405.8 million, or $94 million less than in 1981. These figures reflect the effects of both prices and volume. Chemical and nontraditional industrial exports were the products that most contributed to this situation, for their average price decreased by 7.5 percent, while the price of some of them decreased by 14 percent. The prices of other important products also decreased: coffee by 0.4 percent; gold by 31.8 percent. Shrimp and lobster compensated for a 17.3-percent decline in export volume with a 47.3-percent price increase. Sesame seeds also compensated partly for their 4.2-percent decline in volume with a 23.4-percent price increase. As for meat, its price increased by 1.8 percent and its volume by 58.5 percent. These results were mostly due to the centralization of slaughterhouses dedicated to the export trade and to the regionalization policy implemented by the National Enterprise of Slaughterhouses, among other measures.

The export volumes of the nontraditional products, comprised mostly of industrial products, were seriously reduced. Their average prices also decreased by 7.5 percent.

The factors that affected our exports of industrial products include: First, the lack of the foreign currency needed to import the raw materials and spare parts, which kept the exporting companies from operating at full capacity.

Second, the lack of competitiveness of some of our products in the markets to which they were destined, as well as the protective tariffs established by several importing countries. This led to a decrease in our exports.

Third, the CACM crisis.

A breakdown of our exports on the basis of destination reads as follows: Our exports to the United States dropped from 23.2 percent in 1981 to 22.6 percent of our total exports in 1982. Japan, Canada and Taiwan lost in their relative positions. Our exports to Central America dropped from 14.2 percent in 1981 to 13.2 in 1982. By contrast, our exports to the EEC countries increased from 5.6 percent to 7.3 percent in 1982.

In 1982, our imports totaled $775.5 million, less by 22.4 percent than the 1981 figure, when they totaled $999.4 million. These are imports we are talking about now.

Only for fuel and lubricants and for capital goods for agricultural purposes did import volumes increase, by only 0.5 percent and 1.4 percent, respectively. All other registered products showed a decrease. Consumer goods dropped by 34.1 percent, transportation equipment dropped by 33.9 percent, capital goods for industry dropped by 24.9 percent, agricultural supplies dropped by 22.6 percent, industrial supplies dropped by 28.7 percent, and construction material dropped by 15.7 percent. This reflects the great lack of exchange available for imports.

Regarding the origins of imports, important changes were observed. We imported 21.1 percent of our total imports from Mexico, compared with 12 percent in 1981. France increased its exports to Nicaragua from 0.9 percent in 1981 to 4.2 percent in 1982. Spain also increased its exports, from 1.2 percent in 1981 to 2.8 percent in 1982. CEMA greatly increased its exports, from 3.3 percent in 1981 to 11.5 percent in 1982. CACM reduced its exports to Nicaragua from 21.1 percent in 1981 to 15.1 percent in 1982. The United States dropped its exports from 26.3 percent in 1981 to 19 percent in 1982.

Financing for 1982 imports was made by agreements in the amount of $138.5 million, $18.5 million in multilateral loans, $244.8 million in lines of credit, $30.5 million in donations, $309.9 million in imports with liquid assets, and $8 million in barter with Central America. The $369.7 million 1982 trade deficit was due to the fact that $775.5 million was used for imports whereas only $405.8 million was exported.

The infrastucture was one of the sectors most affected by the May-June 1982 floods and the escalation of U.S. imperialism's aggressions. We also find such problems as the drain of technical and professional workers, who have been moving about within this sector due to the supply and demand that exists outside the revolutionary process here in Nicaragua.

Nevertheless, in this period the Construction Ministry [Micons] built 27,275 square meters of buildings at a cost of 155 million cordobas. It also built 300 km of all-season roads and performed maintenance on 40 percent of our road network at an investment of 360 million cordobas. We must point out that a large part of the work to repair roads and terraces damaged by the May 1982 rains fell on Micons, as well as the clearning up of large amounts of sediment deposited on the fertile layers of the soil.

We must express recognition here of the Cuban Celia Sanchez contingent, which in coordination with Micons companeros worked hard on the reconstruction of bridges in Region Two, Leon and Chiandega; and due to all this work, for the first time in years the coffee and cotton roads were in good condition to bring out the harvest on time.

We must also point out the advances achieved in the construction of the deep-water port in El Bluff. In the first phase, 343,000 cubic meters of land have been moved and up to 3 meters have been filled to recover a swampy zone of 60,000 square meters where future port works will be developed.

The soundings on the high seas were carried out with great success, without Nicaragua having any prior experience and in conditions that were risky for the Nicaraguan technicians.

Regarding transportation, we can state that the National Urban Bus Enterprise transported 106 million passengers, a 92-percent increase compared to the previous period, in which it transported 55 million passengers. The limitations on units and spare parts forced Micons to reduce in March the number of bus stops in Managua in order to increase the frequency of trips. Land transportation was subisidized with 180.5 million cordobas. It must be stressed that 106.1 million cordobas were spent to subsidize urban mass transportation. The Nicaraguan railroad transported 32.7 million tons of freight and 804,000 passengers.

In water transportation, the Nicaraguan Cabotage Enterprise transported 111,000 passengers, 95,000 on the Atlantic Coast and 16,000 on the Lake Nicaragua route. In this period, the passenger ship "San Carlos" was repaired and rechristened the "Hero Enrique Campbell." This ship has a 250-passenger capacity and covers the Rama-[name indistinct] route.

During this period the Nicarguan Shipping Company registered a 7-percent drop in shipping contracts. The company's income dropped by 56 percent because the roll-on and roll-off service was discontinued due to the fact that the ships "Aracely" and "Nicarao" were out of service for a while. During this period, the dredging operation in the Port of Corinto was concluded, the banana terminal was built at a cost of 3 million cordobas, and a tugboat was purchased to facilitate the docking of big ships. The Central American Foreign Enterprise that went into operation in March of 1982 has saved the country freight charges in the amount of $504,400.

In the area of air transportation, the Nicaraguan Airlines moved 134,000 passengers on local and international flights. Two airplanes bought from Spain at the cost of 150 million cordobas were added to the fleet. The airplanes have a 26-seat capacity. One plane is already in use, and the other will be ready in mid-May.

Due to the hike in the cost of transportation, we were forced to revise the transportation policy and offer more support to transportation by rail. We decided to break with the traditional idea of transportation, and emphasize the development of railroads. To achieve this we began working on the Corinto-Managua main line, with plans for the future to include Granada and the Atlantic coast. The work includes wider tracks that will allow greater speed, greater freight capacity, and greater [word indistinct], achieving greater efficiency and better operational charges among other advantages. According to the tentative plan, the tracks being laid at this time will be operational by July 1987, providing passenger service between Corinto and Managua; and by December 1987, the freight service will be operational.

In the field of energy, the country was supplied with 915.1 million kilowatt hours, 41 communities were incorporated into the electrical system, and 12,771 new consumers benefitted from the system. There are presently 244,000 consumers being serviced, representing 47 percent of the country's total population. The country's power-generating capacity is 281 megawatts when we include the hydroelectric and thermo-electric plants. In July 1983 the first turbine at the Monotombo geothermic project will go into production. This turbine will produce 35 megawatts. This will save the country 1,500 barrels of fuel oil per day, for a savings of $50,000 per day.

Advances were made in the Mojolka and Asturias hydroelectric projects, and these two projects will in the future greatly improve our energy sources. We must admit that although we have saved in the use of fuel there are problems in the distribution of diesel and gasoline, and efforts are being made to ease these problems.

In our aim to improve the sewer systems and drinking water services needed in the urban and rural areas, the Nicaraguan Aqueducts and Sewers Institute has provided drinking water service to 62,235 people, and 13,800 people have benefitted from sewer service. In the area of drinking water, 18 wells were drilled with machines and 20 by hand, 4 waterworks to collect water from rivers and springs were completed, 77 km of pipelines of various sizes were laid, 11 storage tanks were built, and 8,449 connections were made to private homes. To improve the sewer system, 14 km of pipelines were laid, 52 inspection wells were built and 2,042 connections to private homes were made. All these works were done with investments in the amount of 50 million cordobas.

During this period the Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services Institute set up an office for every 12,500 inhabitants and 600 sq km of the national territory. The number of telephones installed rose from 42,000 to 47,000. The usage capacity rose from 32,000 to 35,000. There was an 8-percent growth rate, achieving a level of 12 telephones for every 1,000 residents. We have completed 120 km of telephones lines between Matagalpa and Waslala, and before the year ends we expect to put lines through to Puerto Cabezas. Studies were completed for a ground station for the use of the Intersputnik communications. This will allow better communications with the Socialist countries and the world. In December of 1982 the institute began installing 200 pay telephones that will allow access of this communications system to the poorer sectors of our people. The total investment in the areas of telecommunications and postal services was 144 million cordobas.

New postal routes were implemented. The most meaningful, for its strategic importance, is the Managua-Matagalpa-(Las Minas)-Puerto Cabezas route.

The 1983 plan for the economy includes the need to achieve the material conditions that will ensure the defense of the people and the supply of basic necessities to the people. More specifically, the program seeks to increase the production of material -- within the existing objective restrictions -- needed for defense and the supply of basic goods to the people. In the same manner it seeks to guarantee the basic social services for defense and for the people in general; to ensure the return to our 1981 export levels, in order to get the foreign exchange we need to achieve our objective of increasing our priority production to a maximum; to guarantee the levels of production in goods that can be produced domestically and that are the natural support for the production of exportable goods and staples; and to defend the people's economy through a special effort to maintain and improve the levels of productive employment, as well as by achieving an adequate handling of the circulation of goods and of workers' salaries.

In view of their contents, these objectives reflect the establishment of priorities in our economy's primary activities in order to ensure the production of staples, basic grains, and other basic products and export products.

These priorities should also include all productive activities supporting primary activities, by providing raw materials or being part of the process in the production of goods.

In general terms, the establishment of priorities can be summarized in the assignment of available resources strictly for the purpose of guaranteeing the necessary goods for priority activities, placing them above the demands of the other areas of our economy, with special emphasis on the rationing of imports.

The program has been conceived taking into consideration the present emergency, but assuming that a situation of relative normalcy is maintained. However, the development of interventionist escalation in its various forms could affect it, and we may even keep evaluating the situation in order to adjust our goals, the allocation of funds, and the mechanisms controlling our economy, so they will respond to the new critical circumstances that may be arising already.

In general terms, the economic conditions require utmost efficiency in the use of all resources, not just internal resources, in order to increase productivity to the highest levels, to be able to save materials, ensure the adequate handling and preservation of existing resources, and reinforce the rational use of credit mechanisms.

As part of these efforts, we must emphasize the need for permanent control of the use of foreign credits and available foreign exchange, in order to ensure compliance with the established priorities.

Another aspect of the program is the distribution of staples. The proposed goals are based on the assumption that we might face a shortage of staples that could lead to the impossibility of complying with our provisioning goals. This does not mean that we will not guarantee the total functioning of the distribution systems with the full participation of the people, or that our goals in the production of staples will not be met.

The political, military and economic situation confronting the revolution demands great organizational efforts and the highest discipline in order for our people to develop their creative initiative to overcome the tensions resulting from the program, and in order to accomplish its objectives.

In the government sector, the activities of the planning ministry in the last 12 months were based on the revolutionary government's economic line, and on specific instructions from the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, as proposed by the state's Economic Council. Within this framework, the Planning Ministry continued its efforts to strengthen the national system for economic planning as the organizing axis of the nation's resources and efforts. In view of the crisis confronting our country, the Planning Ministry has carried out its work based on various fundamental points stemming from the revolution's fundamental lines, such as establishing defense priorities in economic planning, improving the functioning of a mixed economy, consolidating the people's property as the dynamic center of our national economy, establishing priorities for the production of staples, and strengthening the revolutionary government's capacity to provide food, health, education, welfare, and housing to the people, to the extent possible, in view of the country's limitations as a poor and underdeveloped country.

We are also expanding the production of agricultural export products, diversifying markets, encouraging new ways of financing our economy, designing plans for technological changes, advancing in the transformation of the productive system, and proposing measures to reinforce government austerity and internal savings.

The following were the Planning Ministry's main activities: strengthening the national planning system by implementing a specific method for the preparation of a national economic program; preparing a proposal for an emergency program in 1982, as well as perspectives for 1983, based on an analysis of the economy's behavior in 1983; coordinating the analysis and preparation of a proposal for dividing the country into regions; participating in various [words indistinct] technical commissions following instructions from the Economic Council; contributing in the solution of the problems exposed, and at the same time developing and strengthening international economic relations and technical advice.

In the field of statistics and census, the final corrections were made in the census maps of Carazo, Nuevo Segovia, Madriz, Esteli, Matagalpa, Boaco, Chontales, and Jinotega. Municipal and departmental maps were also drawn up. It was necessary to postpone the census due to the situation caused by imperialist attacks, since it is difficult to devote the amount of people and resources necessary for a census under circumstances in which a national mobilization for defense may become necessary.

A new [word indistinct] statistical system has been established at the national level. The commercial [word indistinct] was accomplished and the annual survey on the commercial sector was completed.

In the field of public administration, in the control of public administration and people's property, the Comptroller General's Office completed 887 projects, of which 475 were audits and 412 were related to special projects.

In production and finances, the work accomplished accounted for 25 percent of the total activities, the infrastructure sector 12 percent, education and culture 11 percent, and commerce 9 percent. This was a contribution to the improvement of public administration, to the better use of the people's resources, and to a better coordination with the internal auditors of the various institutions. Agencies and companies have been supported with methodological facilities, and laws and regulations on government positions and economic crimes have been revised.

The administration of justice during this period reflected the changes experienced on the basis of Decree No. 760, a law for the government's protection of abandoned properties. A total of 78 ministerial resolutions were issued, of which 6 were subsequently revoked, thereby reaffirming the respect for judicial guarantees according to the statutes on rights and guarantees of the Nicaraguan citizens.

The enactment of the criminal procedures law has solved the problems derived from the fact that the exercise of penal actions was in the hands of private individuals, and problems have been solved between the police and the comptroller of the republic's office regarding the definition of their actions and responsibilities.

Legal actions were promoted against embezzlers of public funds in order to protect state property with the publication of a decree on trial procedures in crimes of embezzlement, fraud and graft, and the law on the maintenance of order and security.

The procedures to nationalize land and properties subject to agrarian reform have been speeded up. At the present time there are 186 nationalization briefs in progress based on this reform. A total of 171 judgments were issued [words indistinct] of the 221 received. Advice was given on 153 laws issued by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction.

Volumes four, five and six of "Laws of Nicaragua, Acts of Revolutionaries" were published during the period. It is worth mentioning that the Justice Ministry together with the legal and political research center are compiling a book on a report on human rights submitted by the Justice Ministry to the United Nations in March of 1982, which emphasizes the existence of human rights in Nicaragua. This denies the international campaign staged by the Reagan administration against Nicaragua.

The work of the Supreme Court of Justice centered on reducing the backlog of trials accumulated in the courts of the country while [word indistinct] promoting the strategic lines for institutional development in order to resolve our people's requirements for justice.

There was a 47-percent increase in the issuance of sentences' in 1982, as compared to 1981. The performance of juries increased by 22 percent. Nevertheless, it was not possible to overcome backlogs and delays in the meting out of justice.

With respect to the institutional transformation, 37 new local judges were trained. A total of 11 seminars were held for 435 companeros including magistrates, judges, counselors, defense attorneys, policemen, secretaries, and members of mass organization. The preparatory stage was completed for a [word indistinct] project of judicial transformation in criminal justice by establishing the fourth region composed of Granada, Masaya, Carazo and Rivas.

A deep effect in the structure and functioning of the judicial branch was achieved by Decree No. 1130: that is, the criminal process reform law, and Decree No. 1153; that is, the law establishing the appeals tribunals that (?replaced) the former appeals courts and established appeals tribunals according to the regionalization of the country, as wel as the superior labor courts.

The peoples' anti-Somozist tribunals were established to pursue the Somozist criminals, to judge the Somozist criminals who attack and assault our people.

During this period the Nicaraguan Public Administration Institute [INAP] centered its efforts on training, counseling, and research. A total of 44 training activities were of INAP [words indistinct] training, research, and administrative planning. A total of 39 counseling sessions were held. INAP programmed its participation in 26 research projects, 12 of which were completed; the rest are in various stages of completion.

Through these activities INAP achieved a structure which has more solid and coherent planning and greater influence on the efforts to raise the efficiency of the public administration.

The National Directorate of Computer Science [Direccion Nacional de Informatica, DNI] concentrated its efforts on preparing and training technicians to replace the former National Enterprise of Computer Services.

In the National Coordination Secretariat [Secretaria de Coordinacion Regional, SCR] the process of regionalization and decentralization initiated with the establishment of three regions and three special zones has deepened the democratic and popular character of the revolution and progress in the necessary (?elimination) of the administrative backwardness under the demands of a new vigor in keeping with the interests of the great majority. The first stage of this process is considered positive, having achieved a strengthening of the Sandinist state's management to establish guidelines for a more coherent reorganization and actualization of the state [word indistinct] and to raise to higher levels the growing process of the masses' participation in the state's administration.

The initiation of the decentralization of the cabinet ministries has implied an important process of state coordination in the regions and special zones through the sectorial commissions and the authority of the delegates of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction.

This has permitted the state's more coherent, rational and effective response to production and service problems, thus benefiting our people.

With the growing involvement of the organized people, we have advanced in the elimination of traditional obstacles to production in the regions. We are creatively responding to problems of supply and marketing.

The control and followup of the ministerial problems have been improved. The initiatives on management and the more rational use of the government's human and technical resources have increased. At the same time, significant elements have begun to be contributed to draft a regional economic strategy that will enable us to overcome the regional distortions in the current productive structure. Nevertheless, it must be pointed out that we have not carried out an effective decentralization of all the ministries. This is evidenced in the regions with different ministerial production charts, ministerial delegates with weak decisionmaking capacity, weaknesses in the support units, and the shortage of technical and financial resources.

We must also advance in drafting a national economic strategy and its corresponding regional perspectives in the framework of [words indistinct] the path to break with the inherited economic model. We must also advance in strengthening the mass organizations in the efforts of the state in the regions.

The Managua Reconstruction Board operated for the first time during this period as a centralized institution. After many attempts, we achieved a stable organizational structure which did not fully achieve its objectives because no method was implemented to achieve good control and thus the prevention of a lapse into bureaucratism. Seven projects worth 44 million cordobas were concluded. The Reconstruction Board did maintenance work on 102 km of streets, 13 percent of the total streets in the city. This means that maintenance is given to the entire city every 8 years.

As a result of the May-June 1982 floods, the drains were severely damaged. Amid all the problems, efforts were made to completely repair them before the beginning of this winter's rains.

In this period the Managua Reconstruction Board's revenue from the application of the excise tax plan amounted to 300 million cordobas.

We must recognize that one of the greatest difficulties in the [word indistinct] of the public in the first months of the year was the attention it was given. Even though efforts have been made to improve it, this has not been achieved and complaints from our people continue to come in. Therefore, the necessary steps are being taken to give an overall solution to this problem.

During this whole period, we have been forced to mobilize resources to confront (?Reaction) in all its forms. This has meant diverting some human, financial, and productive resources to defense tasks. As a result we have faced great difficulties in the development of economic programs and more limitations in the availability of material resources to be distributed throughout the country.

To all this must be added the negative effects of world capitalist crisis on the country's economy and the effect of natural disasters such as the May 1982 floods and the drought. The natural factors caused $446.15 million in losses, according to estimates presented by the ECLA.

Despite this, an overall evaluation of the main social indicators shows that during the 1979-82 period, important advances in the improvement of the population's living conditions have taken place. The combined economic and social policies have had a satisfactory impact on those indicators. We must stress the increase in life expectancy at birth. It went from 55.2 years in 1978 to 57.6 years in 1982. The mortality rate has dropped. It is estimated that 120 out of 1,000 children born in 1978 died while 90.1 out of 1,000 children born alive in 1982 died. This means that out of every 1,000 Nicaraguans born alive today, 30 more children have the responsibility of surviving in the new Nicaragua.

Despite the advances, the social situation continues to be difficult. We face problems that, because of their structural causes, will have gradual solutions in the medium and long terms.

In the health field, results have been achieved in the control and eradication of contagious diseases and there has been a reduction in the indexes of the diseases that can be prevented through vaccination. It must be stressed that in 1982 we achieved control over polio since no case appeared.

Although gastroenteritis continues to be the main cause of illness among the children, the mortality from diarrhea has significantly decreased. It has passed from being the main cause of death of children under a year old in 1979 to the third cause of death in 1982.

Medical consultations went from 5.4 million in 1981 to 6.3 million in 1982. The index of 2.1 medical consultations per inhabitant was achieved. This was higher than the 1981 index of 1.9 medical consultations per inhabitant. Sixty percent of the medical consultations occurred in health centers and posts, which reflects better utilization of the services at the primary level. The increase of the consultations also had better regional distribution. There were significant advances throughout the country, especially in special zone No. 1 in northern Zelaya where we went from 1.9 percent consultations per inhabitant in 1981 to 3.7 consultations per inhabitant in 1982.

In absolute terms, the increase was 149,060 consultations, reaching a total of 295,068 persons in 1982, who were seen in medical consultations. The results of the policy to control and eradicate contagious diseases, which in 1981 reflected [words indistinct] 3,752,914, which was an increase in absolute terms of 1,809,518. With the application of vaccinations against polio, measles, and DPT administered by the various health programs, 66 percent [words indistinct] respectively, and the participation of mass organizations was a decisive factor.

The significant advances in the preventive sector were not accompanied by similar advances in the treatment of diseases in the hospitals. Serious obstacles are faced in that sector. In fact the hospital area is one of those most affected by economic regulations and the behavior of some personnel.

Primary education achieved a net scholarship index of 73 percent, for a total of 369,070 students between the ages of 7 and 12 attending school. Compared in 1981, this represents an overall increase of 15,396 [as heard] children. Despite the primary education advancements, approximately 119,000 of 179,000 children of school age are not covered by the education system.

In the field of diversification of technical schooling, enrollment in this program increased by 6,807 children compared to 1981. Technical training increased to 18.2 percent the enrollment in middle education, while in 1981 it represented only 2 percent.

Total enrollment was 912,554 students in 1982 while 877,756 were enrolled in 1981. For 1983 enrollment has been estimated at 1,025,350 students, surpassing the enrollment for 1981 by [word indistinct].

We have advanced in the cultural field by consolidating the cultural (?councils). We have introduced artistic, cultural work in the rural zones of the departments with the creation and integration of a shortwave network, of new libraries, and of assistance to the network of 300,000 users. Nicaragua's participation in the Caribbean and Central American games permitted us to obtain three silver and five bronze medals.

As part of our policy to promote domestic tourism by creating the infrastructural projects for the healthy entertainment and recreation of our peoples, the Nicaraguan Tourism Institute has completed the popular tourism project of (Potomil) and is about to complete the (Trapiche) project. The tourist projects in Granada and [name indistinct] are also underway. They represent an investment of 44 million Cordobas, which after completion should permit the attendance of 134 million persons, and should provide jobs for a considerable number of heads of families.

The extension of the social security service to 57,000 workers in the urban areas of the country and social security pensions reached 246,213,203 cordobas [words indistinct] estimated in May 1983.

During this year we have built 3,158 homes compared to 1,792 in the previous year. In housing assistance programs 503 homes were built, compared to 186 in the previous year. Furthermore, 10,050 lots were distributed in urban residential sectors while 6,000 lots were distributed in the intervened sectors; 9,993 land titles were distributed. The housing construction plants are operating. These were donated to us by Cuba in the wake of the May-June flooding in 1982.

The Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction has sent the State Council a draft housing law to benefit the worker class, which historically has been exploited by the landlords. The law will also benefit the inhabitants of [name indistinct] who have paid a large sum from their low incomes for substandard housing.

The total budget for the [words indistinct] compared to 2,925,000 cordobas in 1982, for an increase of 23.1 percent. The losses caused by flooding and drought were felt mainly in the agriculture-livestock sector and in the economic and social infrastructure. To neutralize the adverse effects of these factors, the revolutionary government appealed to the spirit of sacrifice and solidarity of our peoples with a financial policy which sought to stimulate production and repair the material damages to our country's infrastructure.

These natural internal calamities were combined with the deterioration of our country's external sector. The great recession affecting the capitalist industrialized countries, and the transfer of the international crisis in the world market of capital and goods, caused the stagnation of trade, a fall in export prices, an increase in import prices, an increase in interest rates, and the deterioration in the terms of trade of the developing countries that are not oil exporters. The negative effect on our country's economy as a result of the deterioration in trade prices prevented us from obtaining in 1981-1982 a total of $246 million in revenues that we would have at 1980 prices. This behavior in the terms of trade was added to other adverse factors, such as the 9.8-percent reduction in the volume of exports. Major difficulties included the flow of foreign financing and the increase of the servicing of our foreign debt. Payment for the servicing of our foreign debt increased from $121 million in 1981 to $154.5 million in 1982. Our principal [word indistinct] was reduced from $70 million to $59 million. The total of the servicing of our foreign debt in 1982 was $114 million, which is equivalent to 46.1 percent of our exports of capital goods and services. At the same time, major difficulties in mobilizing the flow of foreign financing also reflected factors such as the lack of liquidity in dollars of the Central American Bank of Economic Integration, which complicated the financing of products that are financed by that bank.

The pressures by the United States against Nicaragua closed the doors of the World Bank to the granting of new loans and made it difficult to obtain loans from other multilateral organizations. The combination of all these adverse factors was reflected in a great scarcity of foreign exchange and in a drastic reduction of our country's importing capacity.

The imports [words indistinct] dropped 25 percent, which in turn adversely affected the GNP. Notwithstanding the drop in the GNP, regular revenue increased considerably, going from 5.44 billion corbodas in 1981 -- 22.4 percent of the GNP -- to 7,505,200,000 in 1982 -- 27.7 percent of the GNP. Of those totals, tax revenues increased more than 1.5 billion, going from 4.67 billion in 1981 to 6,169,000,000 in 1982. This represents a 32.4-percent increase income. Within the context of these elements, the drop in the GNP in 1982 by 1.4 percent should be regarded as a victory for the Nicaraguan people, especially if it is compared to the rest of the Central American countries, where the GNP dropped by 9.5 percent in El Salvador, 1.5 percent in Honduras and 5.9 percent in Costa Rica.

To compensate for the effects of the drop in export prices, the revolutionary government promoted financial policies to stimulate exports. It also promoted the expansion of internal credits to the productive sector, increasing them by 18.4 percent. This reflected a refinancing of agricultural activities to reactivate them after the adverse effects of the rainfall and drought. As a result of these measures, the agriculture-livestock sector, which is a mainstay of our economy, did not register any phases of negative growth in real terms. In fact, the agriculture sector, which we thought would register a negative growth rate as a result of the heavy rains and drought, managed to maintain the same level as 1981, as we said; that is, agriculture did show any growth, but it did not drop either. The livestock sector, as a result of the measures taken in mid-1982 to increase the production of pork and poultry meat, increased by 10.8 percent in real terms.

[Text] Also, due to a strict rationing in the allocation of exchange, there was a positive result in the field of agroindustry. Damage to the manufacturing industry was contained, registering a drop of only 0.2 percent. Despite this achievement, however, the adverse factors that I have already mentioned caused a considerable drop in forest activities which registered a 32.7 percent drop. Fishing activities dropped by 18.9 percent, mining activities dropped by 7.6 percent, and construction activities dropped by 25.5 percent.

The drop in the GNP, as well as the drastic 25.5-percent drop in imports, decreased the overall supply of goods and services by 8.2 percent. Consumption dropped by 4.2 percent, and investment dropped by 22.9 percent. Nonbasic consumption dropped by 23.3 percent, but we were able to contain the deterioration in the people's basic consumption at 4.7 percent. This was done with measures such as price control and strengthening of the distribution channels for people's consumption. From this point of view, maintaining the inflation rate for consumer prices at 24.8 percent must be considered a great a great victory for our people. This figure is practically the same to the one reported in 1981.

According to the statistics presented by the National Institute of Statistics and Census, this inflation rate is considerably lower than that of other Latin American countries, where we find that there has been a 60 to 200 percent increase in consumer goods prices. In this time of crisis, the revolutionary government has continued to promote measures to increase social wages with the objective of achieving greater equity. Work in the areas of health, education, social security, welfare, housing, and job safety is intended to protect the workers from being the ones to pay the cost of the crisis. In this sense, it is worthwhile to mention that the drop in the GNP had its effects on unemployment. There was an increase of 41,400 unemployed, raising the unemployment rate from 15.9 percent in 1981 to 19.8 percent in 1982. This means a total of 185,200 persons unemployed in the country.

Despite the fact that there were some moderate increases to nominal wages, these were neutralized by inflation. This was reflected in a deterioration of the real wage.

This mainly affected the legal minimum wage of 14.1 percent for nonagricultural workers affiliated with the Nicaraguan Social Security and Welfare Institute [INSSBI] and 19.6 percent for the workers of the land. [sentence as heard]

To protect the buying power of the Nicaraguan people, the revolutionary government has planned the following subsidies for 1983: 455 million cordobas for basic grains, 239 million cordobas for sugar, 59 million cordobas for milk, 321 million cordobas for public transportation, and 225 million cordobas for INSSBI social programs. The total in subsidies for 1983 amount to 1,222,000,000 cordobas, compared to the 905 million cordobas allotted in 1982. This shows an increase of 35 percent. In addition, 2.39 billion cordobas have been allocated to help the areas of higher education and enterprises that provide services, and to strengthen the production enterprises. When this total is added to the amount allotted for subsidies, we get a grand total of 3,612,000,000 cordobas.

It is true that subsidies protect the buying power of the people, but they do not represent a solution to the problem because they do not attack the causes but rather, the effects. The solutions to the country's economic problems, the solution to the poverty that affects the great majorities, can only be found in the transformation of the production apparatus to achieve greater levels of production. This calls for certain developments in production in the economic as well as social areas, transformations that will help the productive bases and the social relations of the new Nicaragua. With this in mind, some of the development projects to be undertaken in the short and medium term are:

In the area of agriculture, the structure of land holding will be transformed by the taking over the (?available) estates and distributing land titles among the small and medium producers. This project is already underway. Also, the cooperative movement has blossomed with the development programs for the production of basic grains, with the integrated rural development, and with specific projects of cooperative development such as the Carlos Fonseca project in Waslala; the Pronorte project in northern Chinandege in the municipalities of San Pedro, Los Encinos, San Francisco, Santo Tomas, Somotillo, and Villanueva; and the cooperative development projects in the areas of La Vigia, Pantasma, and (El Suan).

Within the framework of the Nicaraguan food program, the 5-year plan for food and nutrition is being developed. The project for producing black beans for export is being developed in Region 2 that includes Leon and Chinandega at a cost of 300.5 million [currency not specified]. In addition, there is a national development plan for agro-exports and agro-industry.

The national plan for the development of the cattle industry includes a milk plan for the Chiltepe, Mui-Mui and Matiguas projects. The national plan for meat development includes a breeding ranch in the Boaco-Chontales project, a semen bank, production of mineral salts, and the (Frio) ranch project. There is also a national poultry development plan with an investment of 225 million cordobas.

The first phase of the national plan for sugar development is contemplated in the Tipitapa-Malacatoya agro-industrial project with an investment of 2.5 billion cordobas.

The first phase of the national plan for orchard development includes a development project in the [name indistinct] valley at a cost of 264 million cordobas.

In regards to natural resources, a study is being done to include forestry, such as the Northwestern Forestry Project; an integrated forestry project being developed in Region 1, Esteli, Madriz, and Nueva Segovia, and the Erosion Control and Reforestation Project in the Marrabios Mountains. The reforestation and soil conservation program has a budget of 25 million cordobas and this includes the river control and soil erosion projects in the west; wind breaking curtains for Managua; reforestation of the Managua southern riverbed; and a wooden bridges project.

The development of fishery, 11 hatchery centers in Potosi will be built as well as sawmills and shipyards in San Carlos, (Solentina), San Miguelito, Laguna de Perlas, Orinoco, (Taubapan) and Lamblaya with an investment in excess of 20 million cordobas.

There are also plans to build the main workshop for the Nicaraguan Institute of Fisheries in Bluefields as well as a shrimp plant and a floating drydock for the repair of big fishing boats in San Juan del Sur. These are all projects for 1983. For 1984 we are planning to construct a shipyard in Puerto Sandino and a fish hatchery to supply the natural lagoons and artificial dams.

In the mining sector, there are projects for new explorations of mineral deposits. There are also plans to restore or expand the Bonanza mine installation, as well as those in Rosita, Siuna, La Libertad, Limon, (Tepachi), (Miculala), La India, La Reina, La Pita, (Cola de Fiuria) and (Vesuvio) with a total investment of 547 million cordobas.

In the industrial area 27 development projects are planned. These projects include the production of socks, woven material, salt, corrugated cardboard, furniture, spare parts, medicines, (?physical fitness) equipment, small glass bottles, infantwear material, resin, [word indistinct] wood, railroad ties, [word indistinct] steel products, tin cans, as well as expanding the production levels of furniture, wooden frames, lamps, industrial gas and footwear. Modernizing the Polar Ice Factory, the procuring of equipment to produce concrete products in Nicaragua, and increasing the efficiency of plastic production are also planned.

Those 27 projects involve a total investment of 1,111,400,000 cordobas' which will produce in coming years 3,551 new jobs in the industrial sector. Additionally, for the private sector, 10 investment projects have been approved for the production of plastic containers, lids and tops, resins, [word indistinct] food, mosquito coils, doors, hardware articles, tools, and machinery, besides the expansion of the production of toilet paper and vegetable oil.

To supply the energy that the new projects will require, as well as electrical power to the 53 percent of the population that still does not have such service, we are undertaking a number of geothermal and hydroelectric projects. The Momotombo first and (?third) phase projects represent investments of 393 million and 520 million cordobas, respectively. As for the new hydroelectric projects, (Asturias) will cost 506 million cordobas. The estimated cost of the ninth project is 485.7 million cordobas, and the Ye-Ye River Project will cost some 321 million cordobas. The estimated cost of the hydroelectric miniplants is 16 million cordobas. Normal expansion of the Nicaraguan Energy Institute system is also planned, at a cost of 93.3 million cordobas; projects to imporve the plant will cost an estimated 40 million cordobas.

For the service infrastructure needed to facilitate production and give better service to the people, a deep-water port project in El Bluff on the Atlantic is being carried out at a cost of 1.25 billion cordobas, and many highway projects are being carried out, including the second phase of the road to San Carlos at an estimated cost of 128 million cordobas.

In addition, the Managua Reconstruction Board is carrying out a project to improve the Managua neighborhoods, and INAA [Nicaraguan Aqueducts and Sewers Institute] is carrying out aqueducts and sewers projects in 6 cities and 47 communities. Telcor [Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services Institute] is installing lines between Matagalpa and Puerto Cabezas.

In the housing sector, investment plans include new projects in the rural areas of Tasba Pri, Jalapa, Mina El Limon, (Javier Guerra), (German Pomares), Alta Mira, Los Cedros, and Carlos Fonseca, and projects in the urban areas of Chinandega, [name indistinct], (Villa Guadalupe) in Leon, (Villa Flor), [name indistinct], (Bataola), and the second phase of San Antonio. These investments amount to 308.9 million cordobas.

To facilitate the production of basic grains and thus guarantee better supply levels to the people, the Interior Trade Ministry is increasing [word indistinct] products as well as improving and expanding the warehouse system in Masaya and Santo Tomas Chontales. It is also constructing fishery-agriculture regional centers in Managua, Nandaime, and El Sauce. The overall cost of the project is approximately 350 million cordobas.

Regarding education, we are in the process of drafting the phases that comprise the national education system and basic education for the people. We have set as a goal the fourth-grade level in the formal programs and in education for the people. Also, programs of technical education and skills are being organized to train the skilled workers required by the development projects and the new production activities that will result from these projects.

In the health sector, projects for construction of hospitals are underway in Matagalpa, Rivas, and Masaya at an overall cost of 381 million cordobas. Social security service is being extended to all the departments to cover disability, death, and professional risks. We have begun a program of rural child care, rural luncheonettes, and rural children's development centers with a budget of 230 million cordobas for 1983. This means a 343-percent increase in the budget for children's programs compared to the allocation in 1982. In carrying out these projects we are strengthening the new economic and social structures of the new Nicaragua.

However, the counterrevolutionary enemy is doing everything possible to prevent these projects from being carried out and to prevent the transformation of economic and social structures. The criminal activity is concentrated in the form of attacks on the axes of development.

The former Somozist guardsmen and the traitors like Pastora and Robelo, led by imperialism, have taken on the task of murdering popular technicians, professionals and teachers, in addition to setting fire to and destroying development projects. So far, we have suffered critical damage and delay in the projects, as well as unrealized profits caused by counterrevolutionary actions, to a total of $581.4 million [currency as heard]. Of this figure, physical damage totals 113.4 million cordobas, including the destruction of machinery and equipment, installations, schools and health centers, 143 of which, worth 405 million cordobas, were destroyed. [all figures as heard]. These are President Reagan's deeds.

Delays in projects and programs are calculated at 119.8 million cordobas, and this includes delays in hydroelectrical projects, roadbuilding, productive and agrarian reform projects and forestry projects, as well as delays in adult education programs, health campaigns and health services to the people. These are President Reagan's deeds.

Damage to production totals 244.2 million cordobas, which primarily consists of damage caused by forest fires on 40,000 hectares, worth 200,000 cordobas, and the destruction of manzanas [no figure given] sowed with products for exports such as coffee and tobacco and the loss of livestock, totaling 44.2 million cordobas. These are President Reagan's deeds.

A preliminary estimate of the resulting unrealized profits was set at 104 million cordobas, broken down as follows: 100 million cordobas for exports that (PROPONICA) was unable to export, and 4 million cordobas for the production of gold that the Nicaraguan Institute for Mining was unable to produce because the miners were mobilized for defense.

Such losses have not been calculated for the other institutions as yet, although it is logical that, as a consequence of the mobilization of workers for defense, the destruction of productive resources and expenditures for the replacement of equipment, all of which result in delayed imports and exports, the present figures will certainly increase considerably.

The state has also suffered many victims as a result of counterrevolutionary actions, with 157 companeros lost, either murdered or killed in combat. Of these, 58 were technicians, 23 professionals, 2 internationalist doctors and 73 companero workers, bus drivers, peasants and others. [figures as heard] Of those who were murdered, 53 percent were technicians or professionals. In addition, 34 popular teachers have been murdered, while 19 others have been kidnapped. These are President Reagan's deeds.

The death of two international doctors is the most recent sacrifice made for the Nicaraguan liberation process by the 5,712 internationalists who are presently cooperating with the Sandinist people's revolution. Of them, some 3,700 are on official programs, while the another 2,000 volunteers from Western Europe, Latin America and the United States. Of those on official programs, 237 companeroos are from Western Europe, 159 from the European socialist countries, 30 from Latin America, 23 from the United States and Canada, and 7 from Asia. Another 3,262 are from Cuba, of whom 2,117 work in education, 535 in health, 237 in construction and 374 in other economic activities. A total of 2,220 internationalists are from Western Europe, Latin America and the United States, and 3,422 are from Cuba and other socialist countries. [all figures on internationalist workers as heard]

A total of 60 companero state workers have been wounded [as heard] by the Somozist counterrevolution. The total number kidnapped from May 1981 to May 1983 is 549 companeros, of whom 93 percent were production workers.

As a response by the people to the criminal actions of the counterrevolution, 7,616 companeros of the state mobilized in the reserve infantry battalions between May 1982 and May 1983, and 3,215 companeros mobilized in the Sandinist People's Militia for the protection of economic and strategic objectives of our country.

The participation by state workers in the defense of our country and infrastructure projects amounted to 4,486 companeros. Of these, 3,144 companeros mobilized to pick coffee 325 companeros mobilized to harvest cotton, and 1,017 companeros from TELCOR [Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Service Institute] were mobilized to telephone projects on the Atlantic coast.

This week 45 state technicians are mobilizing to various regions of the country, of whom we must cite 21 companeros who are going to region number one Esteli, Madriz, Nueva Segovia to occupy posts of the state workers and technicians who were recently murdered by the Somozist guards.

We have pointed out important aspects of state policies and work. However, this report would be very weak if it did not point out some of the most grave deficiencies that are hindering the revolutionary state.

In the first place, we would have to point to the low capacity for self-criticism in most state institutions. Out of the 36 institutions that filed reports to prepare this account, only 13 institutions made an effort -- a limited effort -- to be self-criticial. The other 23 institutions made no effort in this regard. They blamed all the ills on the foreign exchange problem and the aggressions, and were unable to find any weak spots in their institutions.

This attitude necessarily results in the failure to identify deficiencies and in the failure to adopt timely measures to correct them. Deficiencies such as lack of inter-institutional coordination, bureaucratic behavior, lack of awareness regarding the country's production and defense situation and the shortage of foreign exchange for imports -- these deficiencies could be solved with healthy self-criticism and constructive criticism.

Other weaknesses of our revolutionary state are the incipient stage of the planning and programming processes in the institutions, the lack of timely and needed information, and the absence of a national information system. This situation weakens the state's higher decisionmaking process as well as the planning and program processes. A uniform salary policy is needed, since the current differences result in a high rate of personnel turnover, which seriously affects the programs and plans of many institutions.

There is also a need for a higher degree of connection between management and the mass organizations to secure a more significant level of participation by the workers, and this should apply to mass organizations within a particular institution as well as to mass organizations outside the institution.

Regarding the functioning of the production apparatus, there are weaknesses in the pre-investment and investment capability, and there are problems in executing the plans of the construction sector. There are deficiencies in the utilization of credit lines, delays and confusion in import procedures -- a situation that negatively affects plans -- and administrative weaknesses that result in supply problems that are often unwarranted, especially in the case of medicine and fuel.

It is necessary to tackle these deficiencies vigorously in order to face the current economic, political and military situation rapidly and efficiently. And above all, it is necessary to develop an increasingly responsible attitude among all the state workers. This way we will be able to give more efficient and conscientious service to the Nicaraguan people. During the period we are analyzing, the Interior Ministry continued fulfilling with discipline, heroism, and unselfishness its tasks in defense of the state's security and internal order.

Thirty-four companeros from the Interior Ministry died doing their duty. They died fighting counterrevolutionaries and common criminals. They belonged to the following organizations of the Interior Ministry: The State Security General Directorate, the Sandinist Police General Directorate, and the Pablo Ubeda troops in Regions 1, 2, 4, and 6 and in Special Regions 1 and 2.

The high combat morale and the discipline of the Interior Ministry fighters are the result of political and ideological work that has turned this institution into a solid tool for combating the enemies of the people and loyal servant of the revolution's policies as expressed by the FSLN National Directorate and the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction.

This year, the revolutionary state's security has been increasingly threatened as a result of a big destabilization plan that the U.S. Government has prepared against our country through the CIA. The plan has been actualized through an invasion by Somozist and counterrevolutionary task forces, armed provocations by the Honduran Army, the campaign of murder and terrorism against officials and political leaders, attacks to sabotage the economic infrastructure, propaganda full of lies launched to create confusion by counterrevolutionary and foreign radio stations and from some pulpits, and the manipulation of religion to divide the people.

The Interior Ministry is relying more on the working people in facing the terrorist escalation. Here, we pay homage to the hundreds of companeros who are on missions in the very midst of the enemy. Some of them have fallen without our being able to publicly render them the tribute they have earned. [applause]

We pay homage to the 143,000 revolutionary guards who keep watch all over the country for the security of their brothers. We pay homage to more than 6,000 volunteer policemen who have 328,000 hours of service this quarter thus increasing the guard-service hours of the Sandinist Police by 93 percent.

Thanks to the work of the Interior Ministry and to this effort by the people, all the enemy attempts to develop terrorism in the cities have been completely neutralized.

Through the EPS and the Interior Ministry, we have been able to inflict many blows on the counterrevolutionary military units. We have protected the most important economic objectives and prevented their suffering blows of any importance. This is true even in the areas where Somozist counterrevolutionary task forces or units operate.

The negative effects of the confusion campaigns have been reduced. We have been able to learn of enemy plans in advance and this has allowed the revolutionary state to take preventive measures. Enemy attack plans against the leaders of the revolution have been prevented.

The most distinguished Interior Ministry organizations in the struggle against the counterrevolutionary enemy have been the State Security organizations. Efficient and heroic work has been decisive in securing these achievements. There are the Pablo Ubeda troops, which have fulfilled important combat missions, as well as the Sandinist Police and the Volunteer Police units. In several regions, management combatants from various sectors have joined in the fighting.

The number of crimes committed in the country dropped from 20,377 in 1981, to 10,315 in 1982, a 50-percent decrease. The Sandinist Police were able to solve 65 percent of these crimes, a 6-percent increase over last year.

During the first quarter of this year there were 678,399 man-hours in watch and patrol duties. The Volunteer Police fulfilled 48 percent of this effort. The prestige and the legitimate authority the Sandinist Police enjoyed with the population in 1981 has been further consolidated as a result of their efficiency and honesty, as well as their excellent discipline.

All the achievements in security and internal order have taken place in the framework of absolute respect for the physical and moral integrity of those arrested, in line with the principles of the Sandinist people's revolution.

Whatever few abuses have been committed by members of the Interior Ministry against any persons, have been strongly punished according to the current military regulations.

Revolutionary humanism has been made clearly evident with the prison rehabilitation policy and with the treatment given to prisoners in the National Penitentiary System. This year we completed the literacy program for prisoners. Four farms of an open and semiopen nature were established. One of them is for Miskito prisoners and their relatives. A total of 700 prisoners are participating in productive work and they earn the appropriate wages.

All these measures have had much international impact. In this spirit and under the direction of the Sandinist Police, the state has created a special center called (Andres Valle). This center is devoted to giving attention to and evaluating juvenile delinquents.

Despite heavy international traffic, with more than 311,823 entries and 320,281 departures, these travelers have been served. This represented the preparation of 67,293 passports and the issue of 120,474 visas.

The Immigration Office has improved the quality and quantity of its services to the people, especially with the decentralization of immigration paperwork.

The numerous international meetings in our country were diligently handled by Immigration authorities; delegates were given personal protection.

The losses resulting from fires -- which this year amounted to 58 million cordobas -- is worrisome. These fires were mainly due to noncompliance with [word indistinct] regulations, or were started by criminals. Therefore, we must ensure strict compliance with [name indistinct] recommendations and implement vigilance at work centers to prevent these criminal acts. Our firemen risked their lives fighting 221 fires this year.

In the midst of intensive and extraordinary activity, the Interior Ministry has continued with the task of increasingly rationalizing the exploitation of natural resources, as well as adopting savings and austerity measures. As a result, there were substantial reductions in fuel consumption; efforts will be made to reduce other expenses.

Four years after the revolution's triumph, the Nicaraguan people have in the Interior Ministry a large (?sector) capable of defending its legitimate interests, reiterating in this manner its role as custodian of the people's happiness.

The Defense Ministry's activities during this period have centered around the strengthening and consolidating its structures. The Sandinist People's Army, EPS, is currently in the process of growing in quality and quantity, both in its permanent units and reserve fighters. This advancement has made it possible to confront imperialist attacks with determination, courage, and heroism as well as with the full knowledge of the techniques of war.

The compliance with the combative and political preparations plans, the maintenance of a permanent and high morale within our main units, military training, professionalization of our main chiefs, officers, and soldiers has already built a solid structure capable of guaranteeing the defense of our homeland and the revolution. This is possible because of the military training and the revolutionary and Sandinist high fighting morale of our permanent troops and reserve batallions. Thanks to this high morale, we have been able to maintain our positions and firmly repel the Somozist enemy entering our territory.

We can now say that our homeland has a new type of regular army: united, firm, with new techniques and a faithful defender of the peopl's interests and the revolution's achievements.

The experience gained during February and March 1982, when all our people were preparing to do battle against the imperialist enemy, made all the nation's forces unite for the homelan's defense. This experience was made possible by the Sandinist People's Army, EPS, which as a fundamental factor in strengthening our defense plans and in objectively assessing the political and moral state of our troop.

Based on this experience and given the nature of our enemy's actions, the priority task of the EPS was to improve, maintain, and strengthen the military instructions and plans through the Sandinist People's Militias, MPS; enlarge the instruction centers, and give a strictly military character to the militia units all over the country. To this we added a new element within the country's general defense plans: the village self-defense plans. This experience spreads throughout the country as a way of incorporating the people in the revolution's defense. It is approppriate to include in this report the military training that has been given to the reserve units during this period. Such training will continue.

The combat experience gained against the Somozist invaders and the revolutionary decison and firmness that are put to the test every minute are parameters that allow us to precisely assess the reserve units' role in the defense of our homeland's soverein sovereignty. I deem it opportune to report to our people that, given our enemy's character, considering U.S. imperialism's aggression plans, and basing ourselves on the legitimate right of nations to defend the ideals ratified by the FSLN National Directorate and Government Junta, we have acquired new combat techniques that may be adjusted to the nature of the imperialist aggression. This allows us to have the necessary defensive armement to face, reject and annihilate a large-scale invasion that is included in the counterrevolutionary adventure's plans.

This new technique has already been assimilated by the EPS members, which means a greater strengthening of our homeland's defense and a greater guarantee for all our people's work.

Since December 1982, when U.S. imperialism decided to launch the Somozist task forces from Honduran territory with the idea of at least creating liberated zones, our people and their armed branch, the EPS, have continued their tenacious struggle against the invader. They have been able to abort the invader's current adventuresome plans. We have rendered the deserved homage to the EPS rank and file and to the companeros in the reserve and MPS infantry battalions who died heroically fulfilling their revolutionary duty to defend the threatened homeland.

We have also given due recognition to the heroic borderguard troops and other units of the EPS who face and defeat the imperialist invader, [applause] our recognition to the workers, peasants, students, young people, and women who, filled with an unbreakable revolutionary morale, are part of the reserve infantry battalions who defeat the Somozist enemy under different battle conditions. They have disrupted the counterrevolutionary task forces, thus giving exemplary evidence of their heroism and patriotism.

With their Sandinist spirit, our permanent and reserve units have guaranteed and continue to guarantee the defense of our revolutionary achievements. I also want to tell our people that the best of Nicaragua is found in the EPS, the reserve units, and the MPS. Based on this unity, the imperialist aggression we are facing will be defeated without hesitation. [applause]

The present international situation is characterized by a worsening of the tensions in different regions of the world as a result of the warmongering and adventuresome policy of the present U.S. Administration. This policy, which recalls the harshest moments of the cold war, is the one that gave the green light to the Zionist aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian people. It is the one that promotes destabilizing activities in southern Africa, especially against Angola and Mozambique. It is the one that opposes the implementation of the UN plan for the independence of Namibia, which is illegally occupied by the racist South African regime. This policy is the one that led the United States to actively support the British colonialist invasion against Argentina. The same policy turns a deaf ear to the proposals for disarmament made by the countries of the socialist bloc, and to the proposals of churches, intellectuals and other groups within the United States itself and in Western Europe that are seriously worried over the future of humanity. Rather, in response, they support sectors that have a tendency to promote the idea of a nuclear war.

This policy also has forms of expression in Central America that endanger regional and international peace and security. The present U.S. Administration wants to ignore the fact that the problems of the region are due to obsolete economic, social and political structures against which the peoples of these countries have made legitimate uprisings to overcome their misery, backwardness and underdevelopment.

Nicaragua's revolutionary victory has not been understood by President Reagan or his advisers. They have decided to implement an aggressive destabilizing policy against our people that is criminal and adventuresome. In carrying out their plans, they have had no qualms about compromising and destabilizing governments and armies in Central America and turning their territories into bases for military aggression against Nicaragua.

In this fashion, they have been imposing a war policy in Central America. So far this year, this has caused the deaths of more than 500 Nicaraguans.

For more than a year we have been denouncing the aggressive plans unleashed against Nicaragua. We have denounced the U.S. Administration's financing of covert operations against Nicaragua through the Central Intelligence Agency. We have reported the exact locations of the former Somozist guards in their military bases in Honduran territory, and in the face of the seriousness of the events, we have taken the necessary measures to defend the sovereignty and integrity of the nation militarily.

However, we have also maintained our firm policy of peace and our willingness to hold bilateral talks with the United States and Honduras. Specifically, in May, August, September and October of last year, and again in March and April of this year, Nicaragua reiterated its willingness to talk with the United States, without preconditions, on all subjects that the United States wants to discuss and all the topics that Nicaragua wishes to broach.

Regarding Honduras, Nicaragua has insisted on many occasions that there should be a meeting between the chiefs of staff of the armed forces of the two countries, a meeting between the chiefs of staff and the chiefs of the armed forces of both countries. We have not received a positive answer. However, these invitations, as well as those that were personally extended to President Roberto Suazo Cordova in August of last year and the invitation extended by [former Mexican and current Venezuelan] Presidents Jose Lopez Portillo and Luis Herrera Campins in September to hold a meeting between the chiefs of state of Honduras and Nicaragua, have all been rejected by Honduras.

This overall commitment to peace and dialogue has led us to support the declaration of the countries that met on Contadora Island and to participate in the process of consultation that they sponsored. We have seen that this dialogue did not have satisfactory results. However, to date, Contadora remains the main regional effort to bring about peace in Central America, and we will continue to strengthen that initiative.

The 11 points prepared by the National Directorate and the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction that were released to the public on 1 May by Commander Bayardo Arce as an answer to President Reagan's address were made in the framework of the commitment to peace, dialogue and defense of the revolution that we firmly support. In the face of this new escalation of aggression and invasions, it is our duty to alert the international community to this increasingly serious threat to peace and international security. And in March, the Nicaraguan delegation to the UN Security Council outlined this situation and the extent of the aggression, calling upon the U.S. Government to reconsider its warmongering position.

We have also pointed out with great concern the activities that counterrevolutionary individuals, in conjunction with the CIA, have been carrying out in the past few days behind the backs of the Costa Rican Government in an effort to open a new battlefront. It would seem that they had opened one on the Honduran side, and now they are doing so in the south.

Nicaragua's policy of peace, our rejection of the use of force, our insistence on frank and constructive dialogue to resolve problems between states, our absolute adherence to the principle of nonintervention in the internal affairs of other states and our respect for the right to self-determination of states, as well as our most strict adherence to the principles of nonalignment in our foreign policy and the significant achievements of the Sandinist people's revolution in the political, social and economic areas have resulted in clear international support for our process and our aspirations.

Without seeking to make an exhaustive list of all our achievements in the diplomatic area, we must point out the importance in view of the active opposition that was shown by the Reagan administration, which tried to prevent this triumph by Nicaragua.

We also have to mention Nicaragua's election to the chairmanship of the Pan-American Health Organization and to the UN Human Rights Commission, and the selection of Nicaragua to be the venue of the important meeting of agriculture ministers of Latin America and the Caribbean sponsored by the FAO, and the venue of the first special ministerial meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. This meeting was attended by over 100 official delegations, of which 41 were led by prime ministers, foreign ministers, or deputy foreign ministers.

We consider of great importance the unanimous election of Nicaragua to the chairmanship of the economic commission of the seventh summit meeting of the chiefs of state and government of the Nonaligned Movement, and of the meeting to discuss the Palestinian question that was held in Managua last month.

At all these meetings, Nicaragua has defended the policy of nonalignment, and from that position we have expressed solidarity with the just struggles of peoples in various parts of the world. At the same time, we have closed ranks with developing countries in their demand for a new international economic order.

As part of the policy of strengthening relations with various countries and governments, we have made official visits to the USSR, France, Vietnam, Kampuchea, Laos, the DPRK and Mongolia. We held meetings with the chiefs of state of the Nonaligned Movement at the seventh summit in New Delhi. It is also necessary to emphasize the working trips that were made by the members of the Government Junta, the FSLN National Directorate, the foreign minister of the republic and other ministers to various countries in America, Europe, Asia and Africa.

During this period, Nicaragua received visits from chiefs of state, government officials and parliamentary and other personalities from all parts of the world. Similarly, formal diplomatic relations were reestablished with the sister Republic of Bolivia, and diplomatic relations were established for the first time in our history with Bangladesh, Ghana, Cyprus, and the Yemen Arab Republic.

At this time of extreme danger being experienced by Central America -- particularly our country, which has been invaded by Somozist mercenary troops led by the CIA -- we once again reaffirm that the main objective of our foreign policy will always be the defense of our sovereignty and territorial integrity, and we will always uphold our pledge never to consider all the peaceful methods for the solution of conflicts to be exhausted.

We insist that there is a need to reestablish or establish direct dialogue with Honduras in order to get the representatives of that brother people to stop lending themselves as instruments of the Reagan administration to attack Nicaragua, and to keep the consequences of their present policies from leading to a confrontation that we are dutybound to try to avoid for the good of our peoples.

Bombs will not fall on the White House or Washington. The dead will not fall on the streets of New York or San Francisco. The dead, the blood and the bombs are already falling in Central America.

We have also reaffirmed our will for dialogue, without conditions, with the U.S. Government, with the hope that the U.S. Administration will convince itself that no threat and no aggression will make us alter the course of this truly free, truly democratic, truly pluralist, truly nonaligned and truly legitimate process. [applause]

We believe that the future of [word indistinct] is that the U.S. Congress will dedicate itself to the task of analyzing the false arguments with which the Reagan administration tries to justify its immoral and dangerous policy toward Nicaragua. However, we cannot but point out that while the U.S. Congress talks, the aggressions continue; while the U.S. Congress talks, the people continue to be murdered by former Somozist guards whom President Reagan and the CIA are trying to impose on Nicaragua as a model of democracy.

On 30 April, a new invasion offensive by former Somozist guards, supported by Honduran Army troops that entered our territory, began. More than 1,200 former Somozist guards were involved in the attacks on Nueva Segovia Department, in the border area with Honduras. Our army's and our people's reply was immediate. With responsibility and heroism, they stopped the mercenary attack, and today, the mountain range on the border formerly occupied by the invaders has been recovered by our forces -- from El Castillo Hill to (Loma de las Filas), 13 km northeast of Jalapa. [applause]

These attacks are not accidental. They are very well programmed, planned and backed by the Reagan administration's irresponsible intelligence services. Therefore, we must be on guard. We cannot disregard the fact that while the U.S. Congress is talking, the Reagan administration may decide to escalate the aggression, launching more Somozist mercenaries, more Honduran soldiers or even U.S. soldiers. But direct or indirect aggression will not subjugate this people.

They may be able to destroy schools, homes, hospitals, fields, towns and cities. In their genocidal craze, the military strategists of the current U.S. Administration may destroy all of Nicaragua, but they will never destroy or subjugate the dignity of Sandino's people, who on 4 May 1927, in the face of a Yankee intervention and traitors such as Moncada, said: I will not sell myself or surrender. They did subjugate the dignity of a people of men like Rigoberto Lopez Perez, they did not subjugate the dignity of a people of men like Carlos Fonseca, and they will not subjugate the dignity of this fighting people like (Daniel Fedder) and other heroes and martyrs who fell in Sompopero. [applause]

Long live the national unity. [applause and slogans]

HAVANA CITES DANIEL ORTEGA STATE COUNCIL SPEECH

PA070021 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, has reported that the Sandinist People's Army has retaken the mountain range bordering Honduras, which had been occupied since last Saturday by some 1,200 former Somozist guards who had penetrated from Honduran territory.

Ortega recalled that the counterrevolutionary groups had grown strong in the area of Jalapa, in Nueva Segovia Department, and that they are receiving logistical support from the Honduran Army.

Ortega stressed that the Nicaraguan combatants had checked the attack by the mercenaries with responsibility and heroism and had recaptured the mountain range occupied by the invaders.

In turn, Commander Juan Jose Ubeda, second in command at the State Security General Directorate, asserted that the aggressions against Nicaragua have been well planned and are part of a plan carried out by the CIA.

He also reported on the activities carried out from Honduras by the so-called Nicaraguan Democratic Force, basically made up of former Somozist guards. These, he said, have their counterpart on the southern border. The so-called Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, headed by traitors Alfonso Robelo and Eden Pastora, operates there.

He added that the counterrevolutionary radio station Voice of Sandino, as well as equipment to intercept Nicaraguan radio and television broadcasts, operates in Hacienda El Amo in Costa Rica.

BERMUDA

VISCOUNT DUNROSSIL NAMED GOVERNOR GENERAL

FL091931 Bridgetown CANA in English 1805 GMT 9 May 83

[Text] Hamilton, Bermuda, May 9, CANA -- Viscount Dunrossil, Britain's high commissioner to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, is to be the next governor of Bermuda, it was officially announced here today.

A statement issued by the Bermuda government said 56-year old Lord Dunrossil was expected to take up his new post in July. He has been British high commissioner based in Bridgetown since last September.

Lord Dunrossil succeeds Sir Richard Posnett, 63, who resigned as governor of this British colony in March, in the wake of allegations of financial irregularities at Government House -- charges he strongly denied.

Bermuda had asked Britain to recall Sir Richard to London pending the result of an investigation into his expense account and following a visit here by the head of the Foreign Office finance department.

The Bermuda Government has sent the Foreign Office a bill to claim back money alleged to have been misappropriated by Sir Richard. It is thought to be in the region of 25,000 dollars (U.S.).

In his letter of resignation, Sir Richard told Foreign Secretary Francis Pym: "I can assure you that no public funds have been knowingly misused at Government House, either by me or by any member of staff."

Sir Richard, a former governor of Belize, had been governor of Bermuda for two years. The post carries a salary of 70,000 dollars a year.

Lord Dunrossil is also non-resident British high commissioner to Dominica, Antigua and Barbuda, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Grenada.

He is married with two daughers aged 12 and 11 and has four children by a previous marriage.

Last month, THE TIMES of London tipped the chief justice of Hong Kong, Sir Denys Roberts, 60, as Bermuda's next governor.

GRENADA

WHITEMAN URGES CONTINUATION OF PEACE STRUGGLE

FL100048 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 9 May 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Brother Unison Whiteman called on Grenadians to continue their struggle for peace throughout the world. Comrade Whiteman made the appeal last night at an indoor rally held in recognition of Caribbean Day of Peace.

Comrade Whiteman also called on Grenadians to continue to give moral support to the cause of national liberation and justice [words indistinct] as well as to continue their struggle for the Caribbean to be respected as a zone of peace, independence and development.

He said it is very fitting that the people of Grenada be active in the struggle for peace, since peace is not an abstract or farfetched concept.

Brother Whiteman noted that since the triumph of the revolution, Grenada has always struggled for the Caribbean to be declared a zone of peace. He, however, pointed out that the United States has always refused to have our region respected as a zone of peace because the United States has consistently been holding maneuvers in our region (?in contradiction) of international law.

Recent statements coming out of Washington, Comrade Whiteman said, indicate that the Reagan administration is out to pursue a policy of systematic war. The foreign minister said he was shocked to hear the manner in which the Reagan administration was referring to the sovereign Government of Nicaragua, noting that no government refers to another in these terms. In this regard, Comrade Whiteman reiterated Grenada's solidarity with the people of Nicaragua as well as solidarity with other peoples who are oppressed and struggling for their liberation.

Last night's rally was also addressed by Comrade (Victor Osborne) of the Grenada Peace Council and (Joseph Gordon Osborne) of the Trade Union Movement. The indoor rally took place at the (Santanders) Junior Secondary School in Grenville, and was also attended by the minister of agriculture, Brother George Louison, and the minister of housing, Norris Bain.

JAMAICA

SEAGA PROJECTS CAPITAL GROWTH AT 21.5 PERCENT

FL071110 Bridgetown CANA in English 0942 GMT 7 May 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 7, CANA -- Jamaica's investment demand for this year is J1.83 billion dollars (one JCA dollar; 56 cents U.S.) for which most of the financing has already been identified, Prime Minister Edward Seaga has announced.

Seaga, speaking in Parliament last night during the presentation of his 1983/84 budget, said in fact that the government knew exactly where 1.644 billion dollars would come from investment this year and that the gap would be addressed this week during discussions with commercial banks here.

Seaga said that there had been "remarkable resurgence in investment in Jamaica," and he projected capital growth this year (at current prices) at 21.5 per cent, against 22.1 per cent last year and 38.3 per cent in 1981 when the economy grew for the first [words indistinct] of decline.

The prime minister said too that Department of Statistics' "revised" figures also showed the economy had grown in 1981 by 3.9 per cent instead of the 2.0 per cent of the "preliminary" estimate.

This, he said, meant that the original growth target of that year had in fact been met.

Government estimates that during the calendar year 1982 Jamaica's Gross Domestic Product grew by 1.0 per cent, reaching 1.6 per cent at the end of the fiscal year.

Seaga also said that inflation last year was 6.3 per cent up from 4.6, but against 29 per cent in 1980. "In any list of 10 countries in the world Jamaica is among those with single digit inflation," Seaga said. Seaga said that his administration, like those of North America and Western Europe, had been able to fight inflation and not had run-away inflation. Employment has however risen to 27.9 per cent from 26.2 per cent in 1981.

GOVERNMENT MAKES CONCESSIONS TO CARICOM

FL091230 Bridgetown CANA in English 2128 GMT 8 May 83

[By Albert Brandford]

[Excerpts] Bridgetown, Barbados, May 8, CANA -- Jamaica, bowing to pressure, has agreed to lower the rate of exchange it applies to imports from the other 11 Caribbean Community (Caricom) member countries, authorative sources said today. The concession was part of a deal worked here yesterday by heads of government from Barbados, Jamaica and St Kitts-Nevis as well as lower level ministerial delegations from Trinidad and Tobago and St Lucia for ending a 2 month intra-regional trade crisis.

No agreement was reached on dismantling licensing systems introduced by Trinidad and Tobago in March and Antigua and Barbuda last month after Jamaica's January 10 launching of a controversial two-tier currency exchange arrangement, but the governments in two days of talks here agreed to "automatic" granting of licences to their importers, the sources reported.

Jamaica was said to have agreed to a special exchange rate for settling transactions in Caricom. The Trinidad and Tobago delegation had been pressing for a rate well below the 2.65-2.80 Jamaica dollars to one U.S. dollar rate to which most Caricom goods are now subject, the sources said. The sources said the level at which the rate is to be pegged is to be worked out by the various central banks and this will be announced on Tuesday.

Jamaica has an official rate of exchange of 1.78 (J) dollars against one U.S. dollar for "essential" imports, including raw materials to be used in export-oriented industries. The higher rate of exchange -- what had been the black market rate -- is fixed by commercial banks and now applies to Caricom goods. On the question of the automatic granting of import licences the sources said this meant within seven days of application in the case of goods that meet the (Caricom) rules of origin qualification.

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

RESULTS OF 6 MAY COUNCIL ELECTIONS REPORTED

FL091325 Bridgetown CANA in English 2141 GMT 7 May 83

[By Wycliffe Richardson]

[Text] Philipsburg, St Maarten, May 7, CANA -- The ruling Democratic Party of veteran politican Claude Wathev was swept into power on St Maarten, one of the three Dutch West Indian islands on which elections were held yesterday.

On Saba, the ruling Windward Islands People's Movement (WIPM), which formerly controlled all five seats, lost one the newly-formed Saba United Party, while in Eustatius, the Democratic Party captured three of the five seats, with the other two going to the WIPM.

The Democratic Party, which has been in power for the past 32 years, was given another four-year term on the seven-member Island Council, winning five seats. One of the three opposition parties -- the St Maarten Patriotic Movement (SPM) led by Vance James Jun, took the other two seats.

James himself was returned and for the first time in the history of the council, a woman, Elaine Gumbs of the SPM, was elected to serve on the council.

In St Maarten the Democratic Party obtained 3,342 votes out of the 6,514 voters in the electorate. The SPM got 1,443, with Wathev underscoring his popularity by capturing the largest number of votes, 1,951.

Elections were held in the other three islands in the Netherlands Antilles -- Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao -- last week.

Among the five persons expected to fill one of the seats on the St Maarten Island's Council is 27-year-old Sydney Wathev, son of the Democratic Party leader.

Under Netherlands Antilles law, however, two closely related persons are not permitted to hold seats on the same island council and speculation is rife that the party leader may step down in favour of his son.

The veteran politician represents the three islands in the Antillean Parliament based in Curacao and comprising 22 senators from the six Dutch islands.

Now that Saba and Eustatius each have their own island council, they will be eligible to send a representative to the Parliament.

BRAZILIAN DAILY REPORTS ON BOUTERSE, GOVERNMENT

PY091705 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 8 May 83 p 12

[Excerpts] The support that Suriname's military regime enjoys today is based, for the most part, on Colonel Daysi Bouterse's charisma. At age 36, Bouterse stands as armed forces commander in chief, head of the Political Council and leader of the revolution.

Bouterse, who stresses his nationalistic line, has always advocated a nonaligned position for the country. Those who talk with him say that he was very happy with the visit paid by Minister Danilo Venturini and that he also likes Cuba and the help that the Cubans have extended to Nicaragua.

Most Surinamese Government officials are former members of centrist-leftist parties that were dissolved after the coup. There are ministers whose leaning toward the left is more remarkable, like Education Minister Glen Sankathsing -- former People's Revolutionary Party member -- and Major Sital, minister of people's mobilization and key figure in the 1980 coup.

But, according to government officials, Bouterse is actually the country's strongman because his personal charisma and his speaking ability and presence have preserved unity within the Army. Commander Bouterse, whose slogans are decolonization, independence and development, wants to develop basic industries, agriculture and the manufacturing of raw materials.

Despite pressure from the government, Bouterse wants a rapprochement with both the United States and the Netherlands. He has already begun negotiations with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi to obtain aid from Libya, a country that he visited last year. A Dutch reporter says: "If they do not bother him, he will succeed, because he is an expert. But if they attempt to destabilize the government, they will throw him into the arms of the Soviets and of al-Qadhdhafi."

The murder of opposition members seriously impaired the prestige of the Surinamese military regime. Even so, government critics respect Bouterse and those who support him brim with enthusiasm in his presence. Shouts of "We Want Bouterse" could be heard hundreds of times on Labor Day.

BOUTERSE ON RELATIONS WITH DUTCH, OTHER ISSUES

PM091534 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 30 Apr 83 p 5

[Surinamese Army leader Daysi Bouterse interview with Willem Oltmans: "Bouterse: Correct Political Line Not Simple"]

[Text] Paramaribo, 30 Apr -- "The Netherlands' admonitory finger" is one of the objections Surinamese army leader Daysi Bouterse has against The Hague's attitude. "The most practical way to approach the developments taking place in Suriname is definitely not the typical Netherlands patronizing fashion. In addition, this attitude is misplaced because there is no clear need here to break the ties with the Netherlands."

In an interview in connection with the government declaration to be made public tomorrow Bouterse answered a question about its contents: "Sorry, but your question comes too early."

[Question] You know that the main stumbling block between Suriname and the Netherlands is the human rights issue.

[Answer] I realize that you are referring to December 1982. The real problem is putting the reading, the interpretation which has been given of this event, into context and explaining the deaths. You can ask yourself whether this serious incident in recent Surinamese history should continue to disturb relations with the Netherlands. Everyone here regrets the deaths.

[Question] But 15 deaths are not nothing.

[Answer] The question is how genuine the indignation abroad is. I suspect that the imperialists are more worried that they suffered a defeat here than about the fact that there were deaths.

[Question] Is that what you mean by "putting things in context"?

[Answer] The suspension of development aid did not come exclusively from true sympathy with the victims. What they have lost is control over Suriname. That is what is at stake. Setting aside the way in which the incidents took place here, it was more than clear to us as a revolutionary leadership, that an intervention was necessary. At that time, people were clearly and openly working against us on all sorts of fronts. It was all too easy for the West to wave its banners of press freedom and human rights without searching its own heart. Why do you make so much of our difficulties?

[Question] Because it is being said abroad that you were personally involved. Were you yourself involved in the incident?

[Answer] Have I not been clear enough? Have you any other questions?

[Question] The opposition has witnesses.

[Answer] Somebody always has witnesses. But perhaps it has struck you that the victims, whose lot was so regrettable, were not workers or poor farmers. Nor were they students. For the counterrevolution was close to getting the masses and young people onto the streets in order to entice the military into shooting. But let us talk about other things.

[Question] What does Suriname's political line look like?

[Answer] The true line of the Surinamese revolution is to work its way through to a stable course. The goal: to further promote decolonization coupled with the total democratization of the country. People abroad are making too much of an isolated incident in a constant process. That way you make no progress. A sort of mental puzzlement is created and it is no longer possible to think in rational alternatives.

[Question] What is to be understood by "democratization"?

[Answer] First and foremost, it covers the people's specific interests, those of the workers, the farmers, and the broad masses of people as a whole. When you look around in Latin America you see that the right to vote does sometimes exist, certainly, but only formally. Meanwhile masses of people die in slum districts and there is no democracy in these countries at all. The people are intentionally kept in ignorance. At most, there is the appearance of democracy. But in such cases this democracy is not linked to the people's interests. A government will only win legitimacy when it succeeds in creating a voice and participation for broad sections of the population. In a "nutshell" we have made a beginning with this in Suriname; really once since 1 January 1983.

The other side of the new Surinamese democracy, as it appears to us, is the pursuit from above of a policy, which is directly and consistently in the people's intrinsic interests. These two guidelines are important for us at the moment.

[Question] You admit that the majority of Surinamers do not support your government?

[Answer] What do you want? It is not an easy matter to develop a correct political line for this country, a line which must primarily be in the interests of the people themselves. And while we are fighting here, we continue to be an inseparable part of the maelstrom of international events. I do not need to explain to you what forces are at work in Latin America like a whirlwind and how nervous this makes Washington.

[Question] What about Brazilian paratroopers gathered on the border with Suriname?

[Answer] You cannot be serious? We recently had an delegation from the Brazilian president comprising General Damilo Venturini and three colonels. I think that after Suriname's presence at the conference of nonaligned nations in New Delhi, the Brazilian Government wanted to reassess the situation here in detail.

I told the general: You will probably expect me to make my first request for military aid. But, on the contrary, we take the view that Suriname's economic needs must be given first priority. I had the impression that this caused surprise. Thus, as another part of our foreign policy objectives, we will further regionalize and apply ourselves to relations with our important neighbor, Brazil.

[Question] And Cuban Advisers?

[Answer] There is one military adviser in Suriname -- the Dutchman A. Glemens. The other Dutch military adviser is on holiday at the moment.

[Question] Then where do the reports of Cuban advisers come from?

[Answer] First the rumor was spread here that 500 Cubans had landed and were being quartered in our barracks and camps. People quickly realized that something like that was completely impossible because our soldiers would talk to their wives and in no time at all, everyone would know of it. Then it was said that Cubans were camped in the jungle. All this is completely untrue and these are stupid attempts by the counter-revolution to give the idea that Suriname is in Cuba's pocket. The same applies to the Zanderij Airbase. It has been said that a new landing strip has been built to allow Cuban MIGs to land. MIGs have been able to land here for years, for all types of aircraft land at our airbase, even jumbo jets. What we were going to do was modernize the airport itself. But then these lies begin to circulate, and the counterrevolution thinks that it can use them to political advantage. They are stupid and naive.

[Question] But you visited Fidel Castro in Cuba. Are you not in the pocket of Cuban socialism?

[Answer] I am used to hateful and so-called critical questions from journalists, so I will ignore your unpleasant question. We have excellent ties with Grenada and Cuba, not so much because of the necessary economic ties, but because we deeply admire and understand what the leaders of these countries are trying to do and have succeeded in doing for their people.

But the imperialist press has largely kept silent about the visits I have also made to Venezuela, where President Luis Herrera Campins received us cordially, or to President Figueiredo of Brazil, another country with which we have excellent relations.

Do you know what you should now tell your readers, if I may make a suggestion? Tell them that since 1 January 1983 Suriname has begun the true writing of its authentic history. The power of the state has been captured, so that it can be used to consciously push society in a direction which is in agreement with the revolutionary state philosophy as I have expounded it and as it will emerge from the government declaration on Sunday [1 May]. We hope that foreign countries will also make a serious and precise reassessment of developments here so that incorrect conclusions will not be drawn and so that they will know that we will not follow an extremist line, but have made a real start with decolonization.